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THE HISTORIANS—II

Current Policies and Tasks in Soviet Historiography

The 'Lesser Evil' Formula—Georgian History

Muridism—The Middle East—Peoples of the North

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Each week the Current Digest of the Soviet Press presents a selection of the contents of the Soviet press, carefully translated in full into English, or objectively condensed by competent editors, and arranged by subject matter. The translations are presented as documentary materials without elaboration or comment. They state the opinions and views of the original authors, not of the Joint Committee on Slavic Studies appointed by the American Council of Learned Societies and the Social Science Research Council. These materials are published in order that they may be of direct assistance to persons engaged in the research and interpretation of public affairs.

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Current Policies and Tasks in Soviet Historiography[1]

HISTORIOGRAPHY AND THE STALINIST 'HISTORY OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE SOVIET UNION (SHORT COURSE).' (By Ye. Burdzhalov. Bolshevik, No. 18, September [published in October], 1951, pp. 9-22. 8500 words. Summary:) Soviet historians must do further research and writing, based on Lenin's and Stalin's works and the propositions of "The History of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Short Course)," on questions of the history of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. This task is being poorly carried out. Only occasionally do articles or pamphlets appear on the history of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

Basing themselves on Lenin and Stalin and particularly on the "Short Course," Soviet historians have done much toward defining the periods in U.S.S.R. history.[2] The erroneous, abstract, sociological treatment introduced by the Pokrovsky "school" has been replaced by one which in the main correctly reflects the stages of the concrete historical process. Nevertheless, the schema employed at present in syllabuses and textbooks does not yet meet all the standards of Marxist-Leninist historiography. In textbooks and syllabuses on the history of the U.S.S.R. changes in the forms of the state system or even different reigns have been the basis for defining certain stages as periods. Even the division of history into centuries has not been outgrown: Volume II of the textbook on the history of the U.S.S.R. for higher educational institutions deals exclusively with the 19th century.

A discussion on delimiting the feudal and capitalist periods of U.S.S.R. history has been carried on in Voprosy istorii for more than a year. All who contributed to the discussion favored re-examination of the division into periods presently accepted in textbooks and syllabuses. The discussion was of some value; it helped to clarify certain concrete historical problems. However, the main question remained unsolved. The editors of Voprosy istorii, summing up the discussion,[3] confined themselves to a brief statement of individual historian's opinions, without clearly defining their own point of view. Voprosy istorii should not be regarding others' opinions but should itself direct the development of historiography.

J. V. Stalin's remarkable writings on problems of linguistics are destined to play a tremendous role in the development of Soviet historiography. Many historians, archeologists and ethnographers for a long time allowed their research to be guided by the erroneous propositions of Marr's theory. Marr's views have fundamentally much in common with Pokrovsky's; both preached as Marxism unscientific, vulgarized, oversimplified theories. Both distorted the true facts and events in trying to squeeze the historical process into the framework of their vulgar-materialist, pedantic schemata. The anti-Marxist, oversimplified views of the Pokrovsky "school" have not been finally overcome. This partially explains, perhaps, why Soviet historians gave their unqualified acceptance to Marr's erroneous theses and why a Voprosy istorii editorial in November, 1949, called upon historians to guide themselves by Marr's theory.[4]

Even after publication of Stalin's writings on problems of linguistics certain Soviet historians considered that the criticism of Marr's theory did not directly apply to them. After some delay Voprosy istorii raised this question. Only now are we beginning to re-examine our historians' and archeologists' works in the light of Stalin's criticism of Marr's views.

Until quite recently our historians still held bourgeois objectivist and cosmopolitan views. A number of historical works reflected subservience to foreign historiography, belittling the role of the Russian people, etc. This was a manifestation of alien, bourgeois ideology, a hangover of the influence of bourgeois historiography and the so-called Pokrovsky "school." Soviet historiography has critically re-examined many evaluations of historical events and figures. But on a number of important questions certain historians are still captivated by data collected by bourgeois researchers to provide a distorted interpretation.

Soviet historiography has gone far in studying the history of the peoples of the U.S.S.R. In recent years a great deal of data has been collected on the history of our peoples. However, this material has not yet been satisfactorily generalized, has not yet become an organic, component part of the general course in U.S.S.R. history; the ties between the peoples have not yet been properly shown; the influence of the Russian people on the development of our country's other peoples is inadequately treated. Remnants of bourgeois nationalism appear in some works on the history of the peoples of the U.S.S.R. Certain of our historians, for instance, have declared all the national movements on Russia's borders to be progressive movements of liberation. Historians have not deeply analyzed each movement and have failed to fix their attention on the singularities of the internal and international situations in which these movements appeared. This is a simplified, unhistorical approach, foreign to Marxism-Leninism.

In evaluating national movements one should be guided by Stalin's directives which point out that the national question has no independent, self-contained character, that it "acquires various nuances, depending on the class that is supporting it and when," that "the undoubted revolutionary nature of the vast majority of national movements is just as relative and specific to them as the possible reactionary nature of some national movements is relative and specific to them."

The situation in historical study of Soviet society continues to be unsatisfactory. Large, generalizing works have not yet been written on the history of Soviet socialist society. Very few dissertations have appeared on the history of the Soviet period and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

Study of Soviet society's history was long monopolized by Academician I. I. Mints' group, which made serious mistakes and clung to the "factological" tendency in its interpretation of the history of the Soviet period. Academician Mints' course of lectures on U.S.S.R. history was a light narrative of past events in isolated scenes and episodes.

The question of raising the ideological and scientific level of historical works on Soviet society is one of primary importance. Most of the articles on questions of the history of Soviet society which appear from time to time in the magazines have a descriptive character and rarely go beyond a bald statement of the facts. Quite recently Voprosy istorii (Nos. 6 and 7, 1951) published a chapter from "The History of Moscow," a work of several volumes which the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences' History Institute is preparing for publication. This chapter is devoted to Moscow's cultural life, 1935 to 1941. It contains no attempts whatever to generalize on the basis of the historical materials; it is a list of dates, facts and names, but not a serious, scholarly work. Such an approach must make way for profound analysis and generalization of the assembled data.

(Editorial)—CREATIVE CRITICISM AND SELF-CRITICISM —MIGHTY INSTRUMENT OF PROGRESS IN SCHOLARSHIP. (Voprosy istorii, No. 11, November [published late in December], 1951, pp. 19-27. 6000 words. Condensed text:) ... During the past year, since the appearance of J. V. Stalin's brilliant "Marxism and Problems of Linguistics," scholarly criticism in the field of historiography has developed considerably more extensively than before. Free scholarly discussions have been held recently on a number of vital problems of history and have helped to develop criticism to a certain extent. The attempts of some "scholars" who were followers of Marr to apply his unscientific theories to study of the history of peoples of the U.S.S.R. and in particular to study of the origin of peoples have been subjected to thorough criticism. Errors in estimation of a number of national movements of a feudal nationalist nature in the course of Russia's history have been criticized.[5] The mistaken views in historical literature concerning the military

history of our country have been seriously criticized lately.[4] Manifestations of idealism and of vulgar "economic materialism" in the approach to the study of the history of our own and foreign countries have been condemned by the world of scholarship. Discussion on the periods into which the history of the peoples of the U.S.S.R. can be divided has helped to eliminate unscientific schemata from this important aspect of historiography.

Nevertheless, the general level of criticism in historiography is still utterly inadequate and does not meet the requirements of the science itself and the interests of its rapid development.

The unsatisfactory organization of criticism in the pages of the magazine Voprosy istorii is a clear example of this weakness of scholarly criticism. The central organ of the Party, Pravda, recently pointed this out with perfect justification.[7] The inadequate level of the reviews and critical articles published in Voprosy istorii is a fundamental shortcoming. ...

The sharp criticism by the Party press of shortcomings in the organization of criticism and book reviews in the magazines Voprosy istorii and Sovetskaya kniga obliges our scholars to examine more closely the entire organization of criticism in historiography and to expose the existing defects in order to eliminate them.

It must be admitted that criticism and self-criticism have by no means become established methods of developing scholarship and educating scholars in the research institutions engaged in study of history. ...

Contrary to the directives of the Party and the government, the defense of dissertations for the degrees of Master and Doctor frequently is turned into a sort of formal and ceremonial procedure. It is very rare that a genuine scientific dispute develops, in the course of which it becomes possible to test in the fire of criticism the maturity of the candidate's views and his scholarly training and attainments. The academic councils of many institutes do not display the necessary concern for enlisting in the discussion of dissertations "unofficial" opponents whose remarks might contribute to a more extensive discussion and criticism of the candidate's work.

As a consequence, academic degrees are sometimes conferred for bad, inadequate and even grossly erroneous works. The Academic Council of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences' History Institute approved the Doctor's thesis submitted by I. Zilberfarb on the philosophy of Charles Fourier, a thesis written from the bourgeois objectivist standpoint. The Academic Council of this most important history institute in our country unfortunately also failed to be sufficiently exacting toward other theses, including, for example, Bekhmakhanov's work.[8] ...

The Academic Council of the Herzen Pedagogical Institute, Leningrad, approved a thesis on the history of the Petrograd District Bolshevist organization in 1917, a thesis permeated with the harmful spirit of sectionalism and separatism. All these instances are, of course, not mere chance. They are an indication of the low level of scholarly criticism and self-criticism in the assessment of theses among historians at a number of research institutions and higher educational establishments. As a consequence of this the Higher Certifying Commission in 1950 was obliged to annul seven decisions by Academic Councils conferring the degrees of Doctor and Master in History; and in the first nine months of 1951 the number of such annulments of degree awards reached 20. Especially bad in this respect is the situation at the Herzen Pedagogical Institute, Leningrad, where four awards were annulled, and at the Shevchenko State University, Kiev, where three awards were annulled; moreover, two awards each were annulled at the Leningrad, Rostov, Central Asian and Yerevan State Universities and the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences' History Institute. ...

Of course you would not be able to find among the historians today persons so backward as to oppose openly the method of criticism and self-criticism, but there is a particular form of clamping down on criticism by ignoring it, by "remaining silent" and—the main thing—a reluctance to draw effective, practical conclusions from criticism. ... The historians of the Ukraine have still not produced a work criticizing the bourgeois nationalist "school" of Grushevsky and his followers, whose "ideas" influenced and still continue to influence certain historians of the Ukraine at times. One is also amazed at the standpoint of the Academic Council of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences' History Institute on the question of I. Zilberfarb's defective thesis. For almost four years the world of scholarship (particularly the philosophers) have been expressing disagreement with this author's line and have been demanding, without avail, that the Academic Council revise its decision. Yet even after the Higher Certifying Commission decided not to confirm Zilberfarb's degree of Doctor of History, even after a Pravda editorial in July of this year had noted the bourgeois objectivist character of his thesis,[9] the Academic Council of the History Institute did not deem it necessary to examine the question and to draw the necessary conclusions.

The chief reason for the low level of criticism and self-criticism among the historians is that many of them have still not eradicated certain traits left over from the past—collusion, reluctance to "offend" one another, to "spoil relations" with one another, to wash their dirty linen in public. The "pupils" of this or that scholar sometimes prefer not to criticize either their teacher or each other, and the "teachers" in turn are inclined to forgive their "pupils" their mistakes, "sparing" their vanity. Some historians have kept the bad, so-called "academic" etiquette and traditions inherited from the past, when notorious bourgeois "ethics" prevented a scholar from "undermining the authority of a colleague." The fear of honestly and openly expressing and upholding one's point of view, the fear of criticizing erroneous opinions, is not in keeping with Soviet scholarship. The old prejudices with which some scholars are infected and which are pointlessly imitated by other, young historians act as a check on their public activity and hinder the development of criticism and the clash of opinions. This kind of "etiquette" in Latvian scientific and scholarly circles was recently condemned in Bolshevik by J. Kalnberzins, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Latvian Communist Party. ...

It must be noted that even after articles have appeared in the Party press some historians have not displayed the requisite principledness in assessing the errors they have made. For example, in his letter to the editors of Bolshevik regarding Comrade Kozhukhov's article, Academician E. V. Tarle continued to insist on some of his erroneous views, refusing to admit that the criticism of his work was just. Nevertheless, the historical argumentation brought to bear in S. I. Kozhukhov's article and in the editor's reply in Bolshevik convincingly confirms the justice of the criticism.[10]

Kozhukhov's article was discussed Oct. 29 at an augmented session of the Academic Council of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences' History Institute. In the course of the discussion certain historians, instead of admitting errors which they, like Academician Tarle, had committed with regard to a number of matters concerning the patriotic war of 1812, chose to remain silent or tried to shake the scientific propositions of Kozhukhov's article and thereby to neutralize the effect of the criticism. ...

NOTES

1. [For previous articles on the work of the historians see Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. III, No. 50.]
2. [See "Periodization of the History of Soviet Peoples," Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. I, No. 36; "Historians Sum Up the Periodization Discussion," Vol. III, No. 23; and "Outline of a Textbook on History of the U.S.S.R.," Vol. III, Nos. 1-5. "History of the U.S.S.R." here implies not the history of the Soviet period alone, but the entire history of the areas which are now part of the U.S.S.R.—Trans.]
3. Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. III, No. 23, pp. 3-6.
4. Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. II, No. 4, pp. 10-12.
5. [For previous articles on the history of national movements see Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. I, Nos. 46 and 50; Vol. II, Nos. 31, 48, 50 and 52; Vol. III, Nos. 17, 31, 49 and 50.]
6. [For a recent instance of criticism concerning military history see "Tarle Is Rebuked for His Treatment of Kutuzov," Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. III, No. 50.]
7. Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. III, No. 38, pp. 32-33; No. 42, pp. 41-42.

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More on the 'Lesser Evil' Formula

ON USE OF THE 'LESSER EVIL' CONCEPT IN ASSESSING ANNEXATION OF NON-RUSSIAN NATIONALITIES TO RUSSIA. (By A. Yakunin. Voprosy istorii, No. 11, November [published in late December], 1951, pp. 83-86. 3000 words. Condensed text:) Voprosy istorii's publication of M. V. Nechkina's letter "On the Question of the 'Lesser Evil' Formula"* indicates that evaluation of the significance of the Russian annexation of numerous nationalities is to this day a vital and acute question.

It is well known that the historian M. N. Pokrovsky and his so-called "school" regarded annexation of non-Russian nationalities to Russia as "absolute evil." Hence it followed that Pokrovsky's "school" considered any national movement against Russia, irrespective of its character and aims, a movement of national liberation, a progressive and even revolutionary movement. ...

Local bourgeois nationalists gave willing support to Pokrovsky's point of view. The well-known Aug. 27, 1937 decree of the Jury of the Government Commission for the Competition for the Best Textbook on the History of the U.S.S.R. vigorously condemned this defective, anti-Marxist point of view of Pokrovsky and his "school." It was this decree too that set forth the "lesser evil" concept.

In her letter to Voprosy istorii Prof. M. V. Nechkina raises the question of correct understanding of the "lesser evil" formula and of this formula's correct application in evaluating Russian annexation of non-Russian nationalities, whether or not they joined Russia voluntarily or were conquered, i.e., annexed to Russia by force. Nechkina points out that any "lesser evil" is an evil all the same, whereas the "lesser evil" formula indicates the positive value of Russian annexation of this or that nationality.

The Government Commission Jury's remarks on incorrect interpretation of the significance of Russian annexation referred to specific nationalities—those of Georgia and the Ukraine. Can historians apply this formula to assess the significance of annexation to Russia of other nationalities? Nechkina asserts that they cannot. As examples of application of this formula "without due grounds" she takes the evaluation of the annexation of Armenia and of nationalities "which did not relinquish state independence at the moment of annexation but had lost it before incorporation in the Russian Empire***."

On this point Nechkina is wrong. For it is not just a matter of the "formula," but of the substance of the question, of correct appraisal of the situation, the economic, political and cultural conditions under which the Russian annexation of one or another people took place, not a question of whether a given people possessed independence as a state, gave up or did not give up state independence. ...

It is not a question of extending the "lesser evil" formula to other nationalities to the extent that they offer an analogy with the appraisal of the annexation to Russia of Georgia and the Ukraine, but a matter of correctly understanding the actual facts of Russian annexation of this or that people. Without doubt the "lesser evil" formula is correct in the appraisal of Russian annexation of Georgia and the Ukraine. But it cannot be applied mechanically to all peoples. Pointing out that in their appraisal of Russian annexation of Armenia Armenian historians "without due grounds" "extended" the application of the "lesser evil" formula, Nechkina for some reason does not express her opinion on this question, does not give her own appraisal of Russian annexation of Armenia. ...

In appraising so important and historic an event in a people's life as loss of state independence and inclusion in another state we must be guided by the Marxist-Leninist classics, by the fundamental methodological principles of historical materialism and materialist dialectics. Works published in recent years on the history of the peoples of the U.S.S.R. have made serious mistakes in appraising the significance of inclusion in the Russian Empire of Central Asian nationalities. Works on the history of the peoples of Siberia, the North and the Far East generally pass over this question in silence. ...

In concluding her letter Nechkina correctly points out that objective appraisal of Russian annexation of one or another people can only be made on the basis of thorough study of the results of inclusion of peoples in the Russian Empire, study of the new and the positive which, Tsarism notwithstanding, the great Russian people introduced into the people's economic and cultural life by contact with the annexed peoples.

However, it seems to me that the significance of Russian annexation of this or that people should be judged not only by results, by the consequences of the annexation. The historian's task is to explain the entire combination of internal and external political conditions under which a people was annexed to Russia. The "lesser evil" formula is scientifically correct and merely requires skillful application. All attempts to revise this formula's scientific significance are unfounded and harmful.

THE CASE OF GEORGIA

Criticism and Review: 'THE HISTORY OF GEORGIA IN THE FIRST HALF OF THE 19TH CENTURY.' (Reviewed by G. Arutyunov. Voprosy istorii, No. 7, July [published in September], 1951, pp. 110-114. 4000 words. Condensed text:) Study of the history of the peoples of the U.S.S.R. and, in particular, of the history of the peoples of the Transcaucasus is a topical task of Soviet historians. Up to the present, unfortunately, few works have been devoted to investigation of fundamental questions of the history of the peoples of the Transcaucasus.

"The History of Georgia in the First Half of the 19th Century," by G. V. Khachapuridze, a great specialist on the history of Georgia, member of the Georgian Republic Academy of Sciences and the author of interesting studies, deserves wide attention. It has just appeared in Russian.*

Basing himself extensively on archive materials, chiefly from the Central State Historical Archives of the Georgian Republic, and also using newspaper and magazine sources, memoirs and literature, Khachapuridze has investigated a little-studied period in Georgian history. He treats the history of Georgia in its connection with the history of Russia and the Transcaucasus, which makes the work particularly interesting and valuable. The positive value of Georgia's annexation to Russia is quite rightly noted at the very beginning of the study. "The loss of independence and the transfer of Georgia to Russia's rule was for Georgia the lesser evil as compared with the danger of being swallowed up by the Iran of the Shahs and Turkey of the Sultans."

The author points out that as a consequence of Russia's victorious wars with Iran and Turkey "the greater part of the process of re-establishing a united Georgia within its historical boundaries and of uniting its original territory was completed by the 1830s." However, there still remained beyond Georgia's borders "one portion of the territory taken by Turkey in the 16th century."

Annexation to Russia meant the passing of the danger of physical annihilation of the Georgian people. The feudal vendettas ceased and the political and economic division of the country came to an end. Georgia found herself included in a system of capitalist relations.

The book convincingly shows Georgia's economic and cultural progress after annexation to Russia. It rightly points out that "thanks to her connection with Russia Georgia experienced together with Russia the rapid ripening of revolution and to-

* Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. III, No. 31, pp. 4-5. See also "Revising the 'Lesser Evil' Formula," Vol. III, No. 50, pp. 11-16.

* G. V. Khachapuridze, "The History of Georgia in the First Half of the 19th Century," Stalin State University, Tbilisi; Zarya Vostoka [Dawn of the East] Publishing House, Tbilisi, 1950.

gether with Russia was able to embark on the path of socialist development after the triumph of the great October socialist revolution and the victory of the Soviet regime in Georgia." Noting the progressive significance of Russian annexation of Georgia, the author at the same time exposes the cruel great-power national-colonial policy of Tsarism in the Transcaucasus and the national and social oppression to which the Georgian people were subjected after Russian annexation.

Correctly contrasting the national-colonial policy of Tsarism with the fraternal relationship of the great Russian people to the oppressed peoples of the Russian Empire, the author writes: "The annexation of Georgia to Russia determined the further rapprochement of these peoples, strengthened the mutual influence of the two cultures and also helped to spread progressive ideas."

Throughout the whole book the friendship of the Georgian people with the great Russian people is clearly shown, a friendship which goes back many centuries in history. "The Russians," says the author, "had for a long time looked on the Georgians as a brother people. From the very beginning of the 19th century the cultural and political ties between them grew stronger." In strengthening these ties, as the book correctly points out, an important part was played by Georgians living in Russia, many of whom were "well-known figures in public and political life, scholars, writers and poets. Favoring further development of Georgian culture and wishing to acquaint their countrymen with the achievements of Russian culture, they translated into Georgian the classics of Russian literature and many scholarly works."

Many Georgians in Russia took a direct part in Russia's wars with Iran and Turkey and strengthened with their blood the friendship with the great Russian people. Among these the author notes particularly Gen. P. I. Bagration, the hero of the Battle of Borodino, glorious pupil and champion of the brilliant Russian general, Suvorov. During the severe trials of the patriotic war of 1812 Georgians fought side by side with the legendary Russian heroes against Napoleon's hordes.

Particularly interesting are the chapters: "Strengthening of Cultural and Political Ties Between the Russian and Georgian Peoples" and "Popular Education and National Culture," in which the author has shown how, in spite of the colonial policy of Tsarism, cultural and political ties and friendship between the Russian and Georgian peoples grew and became strong. He shows the intercourse between two advanced, progressive cultures—Russian and Georgian—and the contact between their respective cultural figures. "This progressive Great Russian culture, the exponents of which were the best representatives of advanced Russian social thought, made its way into Georgia and brought fertile ideas into the life of the Georgian people."

The author goes on to note the changes in the cultural and social life of Georgia after Russian annexation. "Every fresh decade brought changes in the social habits and public life of the Georgian people. Georgia's national culture was being enriched and developed."

Of particular importance was the role which A. S. Griboyedov played in the development of the culture and public life of Georgia. "The Georgian people owe a great deal to Griboyedov." "Griboyedov came to love Georgia as his second motherland. He studied the Georgian language, acquainted himself with the country's history, with its economic situation, its needs and with the creative work of the people." He "advised Paskevich in the matter of domestic self-government to grant the Georgian people independence, to consider their independent culture, customs and ways."

The author justly remarks that "the progressive Georgian public felt love and respect for Griboyedov."

The book shows the touching concern of the great Russian writer for the development of public education in the Transcaucasus and Georgia. "Being one of the closest associates of Paskevich," we read, "Griboyedov composed a project for organizing popular education in the Transcaucasus and Georgia. Under this project it was planned to open a number of district schools and to reorganize the Tiflis School for the Nobility into a high school."

The author writes of the love of the great Russian poets and writers, the exiled Decembrists, for Georgia and the Georgian people. Here lived A. S. Pushkin who, the author notes, "was carried away by Georgia. Georgia became one of the life-giving sources of his inspiration." The poet genius "noted the poetic peculiarities of the Georgian people, their talent, bravery, courage." "Pushkin loved Georgia as a second motherland," the author writes. He wrote of this marvelous country: "I fell madly in love with you." Equally warm were the sentiments toward Georgia of another Russian genius, Lermontov, who called this land "the native land of miracles" and said that his "genius had woven for itself a garland in the ravines of the Caucasus."

Khachapuridze describes in detail the exiled Decembrists' stay in Georgia, the solicitude of the progressive Georgians for them. "The Decembrists found a brotherly refuge and hospitality in Georgia. People with whom the Decembrists came into contact received from them a strong impression of moral purity, nobility of soul and unshakable convictions."

The most important and valuable parts of the book are the sections devoted to the aristocratic movement against Tsarist Russia (Chapters 10-13). Basing himself on Stalin's assessment of the aristocratic movement in Georgia and making skillful use of a large amount of documentary materials, the author has correctly thrown new light on this movement. Khachapuridze has destroyed the myth of the revolutionary nature of the aristocratic movement of the 1830s which turned into the organization of the aristocrats' plot of 1832 against Tsarist Russia. The author correctly remarks: "Sufficient attention has been given to this question in Georgian writings, both historical and literary. However, under the influence of aristocratic-bourgeois historiography the 1832 plot was surrounded by the romantic aura of a nationalist legend." The author admits his own errors, too, in the assessment of this movement.

The work shows convincingly that "there are no grounds for looking for ideological links between the Decembrists and the Georgian conspirators and it is impossible to find any similarity between the programs of the Northern Decembrists (Nikita Muravyev's Constitution) and the Georgian conspirators (F. Kiknadze's 'Akti Goniure')."

In contrast to the Decembrist movement, the Georgian aristocratic movement in the 1830s was reactionary. As the author correctly points out, it "was striving to solve the 'national question' in its own class interests." As Stalin stresses, "this was feudal-monarchical 'nationalism.' This 'movement' left no noticeable trace in the life of the Georgians, did not by one single thing earn renown for itself, unless one considers individual plots by members of the Georgian aristocracy against the Russian rulers in the Caucasus." *

The author notes that the object of the aristocratic movement in Georgia was to "set back the clock of history by 'freeing' Georgia from the domination of Tsarist Russia, to restore power to the Georgian kings, to restore the privileges of the nobility and to completely re-establish those feudal-serfdom relations which existed up to 1801."

Rightly maintaining that "the Decembrist uprising and the Polish uprising of 1830 may have given a push which led to the forming of a secret society in Georgia and to its undertaking action," the author at the same time denies "the existence of any direct link between the Polish uprising and the forming of a secret society by the Georgian nobility." ...

The author, it seems, is not completely clear in his own mind as to the reactionary nature of muridism and the Shamil movement, so thoroughly demonstrated by M. D. Bagirov. † He writes that even though Transcaucasia had been annexed to Russia, a considerable part of the Caucasian peoples continued to defend their liberty." And again: "In the 1830s the Caucasians' struggle against the policy of conquest pursued by Tsarism entered a new phase, the muridist movement." Although soon afterward the author also writes that "muridism was a reactionary nationalist movement which was in the service of the British and Turkish aggressors," he nevertheless for some reason considers this reactionary nationalist movement to have been a "struggle for liberty."

Khachapuridze is quite incorrect when he represents the

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* J. V. Stalin, "Works" [in Russian], Vol. I, pp. 32-33.

† Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. II, No. 33. [See also the articles which follow in this issue.]

Caucasian peoples as the enemies of Russia. On the contrary, as A. Danialov points out, "in their liberation struggle against the Iranian and Turkish invaders the peoples of the Caucasus, including Dagestan, always looked for moral and material support from their mighty northern neighbor, Russia. Notwithstanding the colonial policy of Tsarism, Russia objectively was the liberator of the Caucasian peoples from cruel oppression and arbitrary treatment at the hands of the Iranian and Turkish robbers."* An undoubted weakness of the book is that it fails to show the aggressive foreign policy of Turkey and Iran, and behind them Britain and France, those age-long enemies of the peoples of the Transcaucasus. At the same time the book exaggerates the aggressiveness of Tsarist Russia. For instance, the author groundlessly asserts that "by the beginning of the 18th century the Russian Tsarist government was planning an extensive program of new territorial gains at the expense of Turkey, the complete banishment of Turkey from Europe to Asia, and possession of the Bosporus and Dardanelles. Tsarism was making similarly ambitious plans for territorial aggrandisement at the expense of Iran." The author ought to know that Turkey throughout the entire 18th century, and particularly at the beginning of the century, was a very aggressive country threatening the vital interests of the Russian state, the entire southern part of which was still under Turkish rule. Under these conditions there could be no question whatever of Russia gaining possession of the Bosporus and Dardanelles or driving Turkey beyond the borders of Europe. At that time the Russian state was striving only to secure its southern borders and to liberate Russian territory which had been seized by the Turks. However, in defiance of these obvious facts, the author begins his first chapter, entitled "Annexation of Eastern Georgia to the Russian Empire," not by characterizing the social-economic, political and international position of Georgia at the end of the 18th century (when, as a result of increased Persian-Turkish aggression, Georgia was threatened with loss of its independence and physical annihilation of its people), but by showing the aggressiveness of Russian Tsarism.

This is all the more to be regretted in view of the fact that, as is well known, the history of the annexation of Georgia to Russia has been distorted by all sorts of bourgeois nationalist and Menshevist historians of Georgia. A criticism of these historians is unfortunately not to be found in the book. Such criticism is, however, extremely necessary, since right up to recent times an incorrect, nationalist view of the annexation of Georgia to Russia has crept into various works on Georgian history. Thus, Sh. Chketia made the monstrous assertion: "In 1801, as Prof. A. Khakhanashvili quite correctly wrote in his day, Russia subdued Georgia, quartered its troops on Georgian territory, destroyed Georgian self-government, confined and limited the independent, organic development of its social forces, and subordinated a very old culture to a completely alien culture which had grown up on different soil. This change left a deep imprint on the subsequent development of the character of the Georgian people and barred the way to development of self-awareness."*

It must be noted that this nationalist sally was made at the height of the great patriotic war, when the fascist hordes had reached the Caucasus and the Hitler air force was dropping anti-Soviet leaflets to sow hostility among the peoples of the Soviet Union.

Unfortunately, Sh. Chketia's book has still not been criticized. Khachapuridze has also failed to do this.

The author also deals incorrectly with certain historical facts. Thus, he includes in the territories of Eastern Georgia territories of Azerbaidzhan and Armenia which were conquered or became dependencies of Georgia at various times. On page 139, among the German colonies which grew up in Georgia are listed "Annenfeld, in Shamshadil, and Yelenendorf, near Yelizavetpol (today Kirovabad) and others." It is the Tauz, Akstafa, Shamkhor and other districts of the Azerbaidzhan Republic which are involved. In another part of the book, among the districts in Georgia which were in the grip of the peasant disturbances of 1829 the above-mentioned districts are again enumerated, as well as Yelizavetpol Region. On pages 71 and 194 the author speaks of Alaverda (i.e., the present district of Alaverda in the Armenian Republic) as a part of Eastern Georgia. Later the author makes the mistake of speaking of Dzharo-Belokany Province (the Zakataly, Kakhi and Belokany Districts of the Azerbaidzhan Republic) as the Eastern part of Kakhetia, which, according to the author, "was seized in the first quarter of the 18th century by groups of Lezghians coming down from the mountains (the Lezghians came from the Tsakhurs and Avars)." ...

The book contains no facts relating to the participation of the Georgians and the role of Georgia in the patriotic war of 1812. The position of Georgia in Russian-Turkish relations in the first half of the 19th century and Georgian participation in the Russian-Iranian and Russian-Turkish wars are not sufficiently clearly described. Tbilisi is not shown to be the center of the economic, political and cultural life of Georgia, and indeed of all the Transcaucasus. ...

These are in general terms the defects of Khachapuridze's work. These defects detract somewhat from the merits of his book. However these defects can easily be removed in a new edition. On the whole Khachapuridze's book is a major piece of research which merits the attention of the scholars of our country.

* A. Danialov, "Concerning Distortions in Elucidation of Muridism and the Shamil Movement," Voprosy istorii, No. 9, 1950, p. 4.

* Sh. Chketia, "Tbilisi in the 19th Century," Georgian Republic Academy of Sciences Publishing House, Tbilisi, 1942. 335 pp.

National Movements in Russia's Moslem Areas

DISCUSSION OF THE NATURE OF THE NATIONAL MOVEMENT IN CENTRAL ASIA AND KAZAKHSTAN IN THE COLONIAL PERIOD. (By A. Zevelev and S. H. Abdullayev. Voprosy istorii, No. 9, September [published in late November], 1951, pp. 173-178. Complete text:) The article by T. Shoinbayev, Kh. Aidarovaya and A. Yakunin entitled "For a Marxist-Leninist Elucidation of Problems of Kazakhstan History" (Pravda, Dec. 12, 1950)* was discussed at the end of March, 1951, at a joint augmented session of the Departments of Principles of Marxism-Leninism and History of Peoples of the U.S.S.R. of the Central Asian State University, with the participation of lecturers of the Departments of Social Sciences of higher educational institutions and representatives of the social science research institutes of Tashkent. Prof. I. K. Dodonov delivered a report on "The Nature of the National Movements of the Peoples of Central Asia and Kazakhstan in the Colonial Period."

Prof. Dodonov set himself the task of examining errors in the treatment of the history of the popular and national liberation movements in Central Asia and Kazakhstan in the colonial period and giving a Marxist-Leninist elucidation of these movements and pointing out the paths for further research on them.

The first part of the report dealt with the character of the mistakes committed in our Soviet historical literature in the treatment of questions of the national liberation movements.

Prof. Dodonov pointed out that Pravda perfectly correctly revealed the anti-Marxist essence of Bekmakhanov's book "Kazakhstan, 1820-1840s," which falsifies the history of Kazakhstan. The speaker sharply criticized the anti-Marxist works of Prof. Vyatkin, of Bekmakhanov and of some other historians working on questions of the history of Kazakhstan, for their idealization of the feudal past, for defective anti-

* [For previous articles on the national movements in Central Asia see Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. II, Nos. 50 and 52, and Vol. III, Nos. 17, 27, 31, 33, 42 and 50.]

Marxist elucidation of the history of the national movements in Kazakhstan.

Dodonov analyzed the mistakes committed by historians of Kirgizia in the book "Twenty-five Years of the Kirgiz Soviet Socialist Republic" and the erroneous appraisal of individual national liberation movements on the territory of Uzbekistan contained in the second volume of the "History of the Peoples of Uzbekistan." The speaker noted erroneous appraisals of various national liberation movements in the pamphlet by K. Zhitov and V. Nepomnin entitled "From Colonial Slavery to Socialism" and in B. Gafurov's book "History of the Tadzhik People."

The speaker also cited mistakes committed in the treatment of the history of the liberation movement of the peoples of Central Asia and Kazakhstan in Tsarist Russia and after the overthrow of the Tsarist regime, between February and October, 1917. Prof. Dodonov noted that the national liberation movement of this period has been studied poorly. The movements in the former Bukhara Emirate and the Khiva Khanate are also reflected extremely inadequately in literature. The antifeudal struggle of the popular masses of Bukhara and Khorezm in the years 1900-1902 is not elucidated at all. Up to now the question of the 1910 events in Bukhara has also not been worked out by historians. Literature about the 1916 uprising on the territory of Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Tadzhikistan and Kirgizia is as yet restricted to small pamphlets and articles in journals, written without the slightest serious study of archival materials and sources. Some historians have given an erroneous appraisal of the role of the Turkestan and Bukhara Dzhadids and Alashordinians, representing them sometimes as leaders of the national liberation movement.

Dodonov sought to give a Marxist appraisal of the character of the popular and national liberation movements in Central Asia and Kazakhstan. Only if one keeps to the historical approach can one understand correctly the character of the national liberation movements in Central Asia and Kazakhstan.

The speaker put forward the tenet that two tendencies are inherent in the national movement: the historically progressive and the feudal-monarchist. Movements of the first type were an expression of spontaneous protest by the working people against the feudal and colonial yoke. Movements of the second type reflected feudal-monarchist aspirations to delay the progressive development of the peoples of Central Asia and Kazakhstan, to sever them from Russia. The above-mentioned tendencies in the movements of the colonial period were not infrequently interlaced and in order to determine the character of the movement it is necessary to establish its leading tendency.

Dodonov dwelt on the question of the importance for Central Asia and Kazakhstan of the annexation to Russia. He noted the progressive significance of the annexation of Central Asia and Kazakhstan to Russia. The speaker also came to the conclusion that the theory of "lesser evil" must not be used as widely as many historians do even now. For the peoples of Central Asia and Kazakhstan the annexation to Russia was not the "lesser evil" but the only possible way onto the path of broad, historically progressive development. Both the internal condition of the Central Asiatic khanates and their external position dictated to them the only reasonable path—that of rapprochement with Russia.

As a result of the annexation of Central Asia and Kazakhstan to Russia bourgeois-capitalist relationships began to develop here and on this basis bourgeois nations began to form. From the moment of annexation the historical destinies of the peoples of Central Asia and Kazakhstan were closely interlocked with the historical destiny of the Russian people. The peoples of Central Asia and Kazakhstan gained intercourse with the advanced Russian culture and began to learn from the great Russian people the experience of political struggle against their enemies. The appearance of the working class brought in its train the inception here of a Social-Democratic movement, the formation of Bolshevist organizations and dissemination of the ideas of Marxism-Leninism. At the same time Tsarism, which had turned Russia into a prison of peoples, created in Central Asia and Kazakhstan a regime of extremely harsh colonial oppression. However, Tsarism was powerless to stop the objective progress of historical events, the development of which ended in the victory of the proletarian revolution.

Such an approach to the question of the importance of the annexation of Central Asia to Russia helps, the speaker said, to gain an understanding of the character of the national liberation movement in the colonial period.

The speaker went on to propose the following periodization of the popular and national liberation movements in the colonial period.

In the first period the speaker grouped the movements which took place during annexation of Central Asia and Kazakhstan to Russia. Among the feudal-monarchist movements of this period the speaker listed the movement of Sultan Karatai in the Maly Juza (1805-1814) and the reactionary-monarchist movement under the leadership of Sultan Kenesary Kasymov (1837-1846); reactionary features were also inherent in the uprising of the Kazakhs under the leadership of Isatai Taimanov (1836-1838). Prof. Dodonov also held that the progressive importance of the uprising of the Syr-Darya Kazakhs under the leadership of Zhankhodzhi Nurmukhamedov (1856-1857) and the uprising of the Kazakhs under the leadership of Eset Kotibayev is exaggerated in literature.

Turning to an analysis of the movements on the territory of Uzbekistan, the speaker pointed out the reactionary character of the uprising in Shakhrizyabs in 1868. This was in fact a feudal rebellion by the heir of the Emir of Bukhara against his father. In 1868 a popular anticolonial movement directed against the forces of Gen. Kaufman broke out in Samarkand.

The second period of the national liberation struggle is connected with the development of industrial capitalism and the establishment of the colonial regime in Turkestan. Dodonov asserted that whereas before establishment of the colonial regime the peoples of Central Asia and Kazakhstan were oppressed only as peasants and townspeople, with establishment of the colonial regime they began to be oppressed as working people of a secific nationality, language, culture, etc. Thus a double process of oppression was established. Then the popular movements were directed against the very existence of the colonial regime. The vividly expressed anticolonial movements were supplemented by antifeudal and anticapitalist movements. The speaker pointed out that characteristic of the movements of this period are their local character, lack of participation on the part of the masses and also the primitive nature of their ideology; religious motifs in the movements stood out sharply in this period.

Among the popular liberation movements of this period the speaker placed the uprising of Pulat Khan in Kokand (1874-1876), the Ura-Tyubinsk uprising (1875), the uprising in the Turgai and Ural Provinces (1869-1870), the popular movement in the Fergana Valley (1885), the peasant uprising in Kulyab and Baldzhuan Valleys under the leadership of Vose (1885), the Tashkent city uprising (1892), the popular movements in the Fergana Valley at the end of the 19th century, or the so-called Andizhan uprising of 1898.

At the same time the speaker noted that there was a great deal that was complex and contradictory in the national movements of this period. Reaction and the clergy tried to make use of these movements for their own interests.

The speaker dwelt especially on the character of the Andizhan uprising of 1898. He said that he maintained the point of view which he expressed in November, 1950, at the discussion in the Uzbek Republic Academy of Sciences. He considers the Andizhan uprising for the most part a popular one and one of the focal points of the popular movement in Fergana at the end of the 19th century. This movement vividly expressed the dissatisfaction of the working people with the colonial regime and with exploitation by local feudal lords. It was a special form of protest against the colonial yoke. Dodonov held that the "holy war" was only a religious covering for the uprising. Thus, Prof. Dodonov not only did not criticize the erroneous tenets concerning the Andizhan uprising contained in the second volume of the "History of the Peoples of Uzbekistan" but arbitrarily combined the popular disturbances, on which little research has been done, in Fergana and in some other regions of Turkestan in the 1890s with the reactionary Andizhan uprising of 1898.

In conclusion the speaker dwelt on the character of the na-

tional liberation movement in the epoch of imperialism. In this connection he examined the events which occurred in Bukhara in January, 1910, and the 1916 uprising. Speaking about the events in Bukhara in 1910, he pointed out that they were caused chiefly by the colonial policy of Tsarism and that it would be erroneous to boil down the essence of these events to a purely national and religious clash.

Turning to an analysis of the 1916 uprising in Central Asia and Kazakhstan, the speaker stressed that it took place in a completely new historical setting in comparison with the other popular movements. This was the epoch of imperialism, when imperialist contradictions were exacerbated to the extreme, when a proletarian revolution was brewing in Russia. At this time the colonial peoples were being turned more and more from a reserve of the bourgeoisie into a reserve of the proletarian revolution. The national uprisings in the colonies were becoming an integral part of the revolutionary process.

Dodonov came to the conclusion that the 1916 uprising was at the same time both anticolonial and antifeudal. To corroborate this thesis the speaker cited facts about the merciless extermination in the province of the district bailiffs and the Kishlak elders. The speaker asserted that representatives of the dominating class tried to make use of the 1916 uprising in Central Asia and Kazakhstan for their own purposes, which imparted some reactionary features to the uprising. The imperialists of Germany also tried to make use of the 1916 uprising for the purpose of weakening Russia's home front in the first world war.

The speaker dwelt briefly on the popular movement in Central Asia and Kazakhstan in the period after the overthrow of the Tsarist regime and the revolutionary mobilization of the masses—from February to October, 1917. He noted the extreme inadequacy of the treatment of this question in historical literature. Even now material has not been collected about the workers' movement in the cities, about the peasant uprisings, about their struggle to take the land and water resources from the landlords, bats and manaps. However, available data indicate the wide scope of the national liberation movement of this time.

The speaker said that the task of Soviet historians of Central Asia and Kazakhstan is to put an end to all distortions of the history of the national liberation movements of the colonial period and to give a Marxist-Leninist treatment of these movements. It is necessary to look upon every movement of the masses from a strictly historical standpoint, taking into account the historical conditions of its development.

Animated debates developed on Dodonov's report. The Dean of the History Department of the Central Asian State University, Asst. Prof. A. Kh. Khamrayev, expressed disagreement with the appraisal given by the author of the report of the Bukhara events of 1910, which were, in his opinion, of a reactionary character. Khamrayev was also in disagreement with the way in which the question of the development of capitalist relationships in Central Asia and Uzbekistan is treated by the compilers of the second volume of the "History of the Peoples of Uzbekistan." In his opinion, the process of the development of capitalist relationships in Central Asia and Kazakhstan began only after they had been conquered by Russia; before the annexation of Central Asia to Russia capitalist relationships in Central Asia were not developed at all. Thus Khamrayev considered that the annexation did not accelerate the development of these relationships but began them.

Khamrayev went on to express the opinion that the problem of the progressive character of the annexation of Kazakhstan and Central Asia to Russia must be regarded only in the light of the historical prospect of the social-economic, cultural, national and revolutionary development of Kazakhstan and Central Asia.

In his speech Master of Historical Sciences V. Ya. Nepomnin stressed that the dialectics of the problem of the annexation of Central Asia to Russia lie in the fact that despite the transformation of Central Asia into a colony, its annexation, by virtue of its objective results and consequences, was of immense progressive importance and marked a new historical epoch in the development of the Central Asian peoples. Nepomnin pointed out that one cannot equate Tsarism with the Russian people. Russia exercised immense influence on the revolutionizing of the masses of Turkestan. As a result of this the revolutionary movement in Turkestan by the beginning of the 20th century merged with the revolutionary movement of the Russian proletariat, the most revolutionary in the world.

After analyzing the causes and course of the Andizhan uprising, Nepomnin came to the conclusion that this uprising was of a reactionary character and pushed the peoples of Turkestan back to feudalism and to the despotism of the khans.

Nepomnin disputed the views of some comrades who suppose that the Uzbek bourgeois nation was formed long before the victory of the great October socialist revolution. Such views, in his opinion, lead to belittling the importance in principle of the October revolution in Uzbekistan, to belittling the role of the Russian people in the liquidation of the economic and cultural backwardness of Uzbekistan, in the socialist transformation of its economy and culture, to belittling the remarkable results of the Leninist-Stalinist national policy.

The head of the Department of the Principles of Marxism-Leninism at Tashkent Textile Institute, Doctor of Economics Aminov, devoted his speech to the question of the development of capitalist relationships in Central Asia. Comrade Aminov noted that the development in Central Asia of the capitalist relationships which arose in the depths of the feudal system meant the possibility of the development of more advanced forms of economy and social relationships, the development of a more advanced social-economic structure in comparison with the patriarchal-feudal relationships that existed. But the peoples of Central Asia did not travel the capitalist path of development. Before the October revolution patriarchal-feudal relationships were predominant here. Comrade Aminov criticized the point of view of Master of Philosophy R. Abdushukurov, who, during the discussion of the initial draft of a book on the history of philosophy, stated that the bourgeois system was instituted in Central Asia before the October revolution and the process of formation of the Uzbek bourgeois nation was completed on this basis.

At the same time Comrade Aminov stressed that annexation of Central Asia to Russia meant the transformation of the land into a colony of Russian imperialism and right up to the great October socialist revolution Central Asia continued to remain a backward colonial appendage of the mother country.

Master of Philosophy Abdushukurov put forward the assertion that in Uzbekistan formation of the Uzbek bourgeois nation, a backward and nonself-sufficient nation, was completed in the colonial period. Master of History Eidelman and Master of History Gurevich, who spoke in the discussion, maintained the same point of view. At the same time Comrade Gurevich considered that the development of the Uzbek bourgeois nation reached a stalemate before the great October socialist revolution.

The speech of the Director of the Institute of the History of the Communist Party under the Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee, Master of History K. Ye. Zhitov, was a detailed one. Zhitov stressed that the discussion is of great and serious importance. An analysis of the national movement in Uzbekistan is a topical and extremely acute question. One has to re-examine fundamentally the question of the character of a number of national movements. Zhitov considered that the speaker did not give a succinct appraisal of the annexation of Central Asia to Russia and in particular asserted erroneously that "the progressive character of the annexation is the key to a correct explanation of the national liberation movement of the colonial period." Zhitov stated that recognition of the objectively progressive consequences of the Tsarist conquest does not exclude recognition of the progressive character of the struggle of the working people of Central Asia against the national-colonial yoke, a struggle which they conducted in alliance with the Russian working class. He pointed out that the major shortcoming of the report is the confused thesis of the presence of two tendencies in each national movement. By his statement to the effect that the term "holy war" does not properly describe the character of a number of movements, the speaker underestimated the reactionary essence of the "holy war" slogan. He noted that the speaker had not revealed certain mistakes of a political character in individual works devoted to the 1916 uprising, and especially his own mistakes on questions of the national movement in Uzbekistan.

Developing the tenets of his article "On Certain Questions of the History of the National Movement in Uzbekistan" (Pravda Vostoka [Truth of the East], Nov. 2, 1950), Zhitov dwelt on the character of individual national movements in Central Asia. The uprisings of the Dzhetynkhans in the 1880s, the Andizhan uprising in 1898 and the Khiva uprising of Dzhunaid-Khan, in his opinion, were of a reactionary, feudal-nationalist character. Zhitov points out that Dodonov failed to show the reactionary character of the Andizhan uprising of 1898.

A. G. Abdunabiyev, a graduate of the Institute of the History of the Communist Party under the Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee, dwelt on the question of the consolidation of the Uzbeks into a nation. He made objections to the assertion of Comrades Abdushukurov and Eidelman, who, in his opinion, confused the beginning of the formation of the nations with their formational process, their consolidation.

R. Yakubov, a senior staff member of the Institute of the History of the Communist Party under the Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee, who spoke in the discussion, dwelt on an analysis of the 1916 uprising in Khorezm. He noted that the masses of the people took part in this movement. But it is necessary to distinguish between the movement of the Khorezm masses and the movement of Dzhunaid-Khan, which pursued reactionary aims. The liberation struggle of the peoples of the Khiva khanate has not yet been adequately studied by our historians and they are faced with the task of giving a correct appraisal of these events, basing themselves on archive materials.

The Head of the Department of History of Countries of the East at the Central Asian State University, Master of History G. L. Bondarevsky, dwelt on the causes which gave rise to the backwardness of the countries of the East and, in particular, of Central Asia, as compared with the European countries in the late Middle Ages, and on the causes which greatly slowed down development of capitalist relationships in the countries of the East. Bondarevsky noted that the most important causes for the backwardness of the countries of Asia in relation to Europe were the Asian type of community, the strong influence of the nomads, the singularity of the Asiatic town, which was largely a headquarters for feudal lords, and the absence of guarantees for private property. The agony of the feudal system was prolonged by the suppression by the forces of reaction of the peasant antifeudal movements of the late Middle Ages, which had no leadership from the bourgeoisie.

Bondarevsky noted the extremely strong influence of the capitalist countries on the feudal countries of the East in the epoch of industrial capitalism. On one hand, they promoted disintegration of feudal relationships, exacerbation of the class struggle and considerable acceleration of the development of productive forces and bourgeois relationships in the countries of the East; on the other hand, enslaving the countries of the East, the European countries tried to retard the development of capitalist relationships, to prevent formation of a national industry and to turn these countries into markets and sources of raw materials. Thus, the influence of Russia on capitalist development in Central Asia was of a dual character, and one must adopt the dialectical approach when appraising it.

Bondarevsky pointed out that the peoples of the East knew two Russias: they loved and respected the revolutionary Russia and despised the Tsarist autocracy. But Britain at that time was represented in the East by the colonizers, the monopolists and financiers who enslaved the peoples of the East and obstructed the revolutionary movement in all possible ways. Elucidation of this question enables one to appraise correctly the progressive character of the annexation of Central Asia to Russia.

The Head of the Department of Principles of Marxism-Leninism of the Central Asian State University, Master of History Ye. A. Voskoboinikov, who spoke in the discussion, stressed that the serious political errors contained in Bekmakhanov's works are the result of the fact that Bekmakhanov treats the questions from bourgeois nationalist positions.

Voskoboinikov pointed out a number of mistakes in the works of the historians of Uzbekistan who regarded all national movements in Central Asia as national-liberation, progressive ones, although many of them were of a reactionary character and did not reflect the interests of the working people.

Voskoboinikov then dwelt on the question of the formation of the Uzbek bourgeois nation. He pointed out that before publication of Comrade Stalin's brilliant works "The National Question and Leninism" and "Marxism and Problems of Linguistics" many historians of Uzbekistan denied that the Uzbek bourgeois nation began to form in the second half of the 19th century and at the beginning of the 20th century.

Now, in the light of the seminal works of Comrade Stalin, in the light of the Marxist analysis of the historical process, it has become clear that capitalism developed in the prerevolutionary period in the depths of the feudal society of Uzbekistan and, consequently, the Uzbek bourgeois nation could not but develop. But this process of formation of the Uzbek bourgeois nation, as a result of the national-colonial oppression on the part of Tsarism, was not completed before the victory of the great October socialist revolution. Voskoboinikov pointed out in this connection that Asst. Prof. Eidelman obviously overestimates the role of market relationships, regarding them as a thing apart from the means of production as the determining force of social development.

In 1904 Lenin wrote: "Nations are the inevitable product and inevitable form of the bourgeois epoch of social development." Comrade Stalin teaches that a nation arises in the epoch of ascending capitalism, of the destruction of feudal disunity, of the development of commodity exchange, of the division of labor and the merging of small local markets into a single national market.

Inasmuch as the feudal means of production remained dominant in Uzbekistan until the victory of the Soviet regime, it is clear that before the triumph of the great October socialist revolution the Uzbek bourgeois nation had not had time to take form, although this process was going on.

Voskoboinikov further considers that Gurevich's assertion that the process of development of the Uzbek bourgeois nation reached a stalemate before the October revolution does not stand up to Marxist criticism.

Voskoboinikov also dwelt on the question of the consolidation of the Uzbek people into a socialist nation.

Comrade Yagudin also spoke in the discussion and dwelt on the questions of the special manner of the formation of the bourgeois and socialist nations in the Soviet East.

In regard to Prof. Dodonov's report the joint augmented meeting adopted a decision in which it associated itself completely with the principled criticism of the mistakes and distortions of a bourgeois nationalist character in the treatment of questions of the history of the national movement which was given in the article published in Pravda.

It is pointed out in the decision that the conquest of the Central Asian khanates by Russia, despite all the brutalities of the colonial yoke set up by Tsarism, was of objectively progressive significance for the peoples of these khanates in comparison with the grim situation in which they were and also in comparison with the fate which awaited them in the event of establishment in Central Asia of the domination of British or German imperialism or of their Pan-Islamist network of agents.

The objectively positive consequences of the conquest of Central Asia by Russia are indisputable: these are cessation of the constant internecine wars which undermined productive forces and ruined the population, abolition of the slave trade in Central Asia and of the medieval system of khanate rule, drawing of the backward economy into the orbit of the more advanced economy of Tsarist Russia, considerable acceleration of the development of capitalist relationships, appearance of cadres of the national working class, and penetration into Central Asia of the advanced Russian culture, of the ideas of Marxism-Leninism.

The decision stresses that in colonial Turkestan, under the direct influence of the workers and peasants of Russia, the liberation struggle of the working people was intensified, their united front was formed with the working people of Russia under the direction of the Russian proletariat and its Bolshevist party, against the Tsarist colonizers and the local feudal-landlord oppressors.

The joint session of the departments of the Central Asian

State University, which was held with the active participation of the scholars of Tashkent, showed the immense interest of the scholars and intelligentsia of the capital of Uzbekistan in the solving of most important ideological problems raised in the magazine Bolshevik and the newspaper Pravda.

As a result of animated debates and creative discussion of the questions raised it was possible to elucidate correctly the progressive character of the annexation of Central Asia to Russia, to give a Marxist appraisal of the character of the national movements of the colonial period, to show the reactionary essence of the feudal-nationalist Andizhan uprising of 1898 and of certain other movements.

In the course of the meeting it was possible to establish that in colonial Uzbekistan simultaneously with inception and development of the capitalist system there proceeded in the depths of the feudal system the process of forming the people into a bourgeois nation, which, however, was not fully completed before 1917.

At the same time in the course of the discussion there came to light serious defects existing in the treatment of most important problems of the history of the Uzbek people, in particular, of the history of the Soviet period. Up to now there have been no serious research works devoted to the question of the noncapitalist path of development of the peoples of Central Asia—from the patriarchal-feudal relationships to socialism. The problem of formation of socialist nations is studied extremely inadequately.

The decrees of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union on ideological questions and J. V. Stalin's works on linguistics confront the historians of Uzbekistan with the urgent task of working out profoundly, in a Marxist manner, problems of the history of the peoples of Central Asia and, in particular, of the history of Soviet, socialist Uzbekistan.

MURIDISM AS A TOOL OF THE AGGRESSIVE POLICY OF TURKEY AND BRITAIN IN THE NORTHWEST CAUCASUS IN THE 19TH CENTURY. (By A. Fadeyev. Voprosy istorii, No. 9, September [published in late November], 1951, pp. 76-96. 15,000 words. Summary:) The decree of the U.S.S.R. Council of Ministers revoking the decision awarding a Stalin Prize to G. Guseinov set Soviet historians the task of fighting resolutely against the defective, anti-Marxist conception which appraised the Caucasian muridism of the 19th century as a progressive, democratic and national liberation movement.

The real purport of this movement, as stressed in the report of the Committee on Stalin Prizes, published in Pravda May 14, 1950, lay in the fact that it was "reactionary, nationalistic and was in the service of British capitalism and the Turkish Sultan." This also applies fully, as M. D. Bagirov has already noted in his article, to the muridist movement in the Northwest Caucasus.

Russian historians of the monarchist-great power trend gave a false interpretation to the history of the muridist movement in the Northwest Caucasus, treating it as an aspect of the notorious "Cross and Crescent struggle," i.e., reducing the entire matter to the religious animosity of Moslems against "infidels."

On the other hand, in foreign, especially British and Turkish sources, the muridist movement is usually depicted as a struggle for the independence of "Cherkessia," which is a deliberate falsification of historical facts. It is well known that the thesis of the "liberation" character of muridism was once snatched up by M. N. Pokrovsky, the pernicious influence of whose anti-Marxist and thoroughly tendentious interpretation some Soviet historians were unable to overcome in this question until quite recently.

One of the most important defects of the now condemned conception of muridism is the one-sided elucidation of this problem, without consideration of the historical setting in the Caucasus and in adjacent regions of Asia Minor in the early 19th century. In particular, the events which took place in the Northwest Caucasus are at best regarded only in the light of Russo-Turkish relations, whereas by the first quarter of the 19th century the Black Sea coast of the Caucasus had become the object of Anglo-Russian contradictions. Moreover, it is incorrect to regard as the sole cause of these contradictions the desire of Russian Tsarism to seize strategic positions on the Caucasian coastline of the Black Sea for the purposes of ensuring the security of the frontiers of Western Georgia and its maritime communications with the ports in the south of Russia. It is also necessary to take into account Britain's predatory aspirations in this region, examining them from the angle of British expansion, which had increased at that time in the Near and Middle East.

Modern British and American historians try to prove that Britain's policy in the East has, allegedly, always been completely "peace-loving" and, allegedly, has pursued the sole aim of "defense of British interests from Russian aggression."

Sumner ("Russia and the Balkans"), Henderson ("Crimean War Diplomacy and Other Historical Essays"), Bailey ("British Policy and the Turkish Reform Movement") and other historians, fulfilling the orders of Anglo-American imperialist reaction, expound the history of Anglo-Russian contradictions in the Eastern question in this spirit. Moreover, they all persistently propagandize the story that the source of all Anglo-Russian conflicts in the East was "the threat of a Russian invasion of India," repeating the well-worn arguments of their predecessors, such renowned troubadours of British expansion in Asia as Urquhart ("Progress and Present Position of Russia in the East"), Connolly ("Journey to the North of India Overland From England Through Russia, Persia and Afghanistan") and Rawlinson ("England and Russia in the East").

However, contrary to the assertions of the Anglo-American falsifiers of history, there existed no real threat to British possessions in India on the part of Russia in the 19th century, and the story of this "threat" was composed only to conceal the predatory aspirations of the British bourgeoisie, which itself conducted an offensive "against inner Asia simultaneously from two sides: from the Indus and the Black Sea."

Soviet historians have already drawn attention repeatedly to this fact. (See M. K. Rozhkov's monograph "Economic Policy of the Tsarist Government in the Middle East in the Second Quarter of the 19th Century," Moscow, 1949; Ye. L. Steinberg's article "British Story of a 'Russian Threat' to India in the 19th-20th Centuries" in the 33rd issue of the "Historical Notes" of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences, et al.).

Interest in the Western Caucasus in London City circles increased in the 1820s in connection with the intensification of British expansion in Central Asia and Asia Minor.

The true designs of the leaders of British policy in respect to the Transcaucasus were as follows: they were bent on ousting Russia from there precisely because she impeded the advance of British capital along this notorious "direct line" to the Eastern markets. It is in the light of this task, conditioned by the predatory interests of the British bourgeoisie, that one must examine also the activeness of the British network of agents in Iran and the increasingly frequent visits to Georgia by Britons. Incidentally, among them there were not only traveling salesmen of British firms but also British Army officers who were drawn here, apparently, by interests that were by no means commercial.

The clamorous, hysterical anti-Russian campaign which was launched in London in the autumn of 1828 in connection with the Peace of Turkmanchai and the major successes of the Russian forces in the Caucasian theater in the new war against Turkey was also conditioned by the same expansionist aspirations of the British bourgeoisie with regard to the Transcaucasus. The signal for this campaign was the provocational statements of the British envoy, D. MacDonald, who asserted that the Russian Commander-in-Chief, Gen. Paskevich, intended, by seizing Erzerum, to push forward directly "to the frontiers of India." The slogan "India Is in Danger!" was snatched up by the majority of influential British newspapers which reflected the views of the most aggressive circles of the City.

Of course, the clamor pursued not at all defensive, but offensive aims. The organizers of this campaign had in view not only to intimidate public opinion with the bugbear of the "Russian danger" but also to compel the government of the Duke of Wellington to interfere forthwith in the Russo-Turkish conflict for the sake of ensuring the predatory aspirations of the British capitalists in the Near and Middle East.

At the end of 1828 there was published in London a book under the pretentious title "The Designs of Russia." Its author, Col.

G. de Lacy Evans, one of the prominent representatives of the British military, considering a military conflict with Russia inevitable and, being a convinced adherent of the traditional British doctrine of "indirect action," called for the creation of a broad anti-Russian coalition with the involvement in it of all the chief European states and also Iran and Turkey. The forces of this coalition were to block the Baltic and Black Sea ports of Russia, to destroy Kronstadt and Sevastopol, to carry out an invasion of the Transcaucasus under command of British officers and to undertake large-scale landing operations on the coasts of Finland, the Crimea and the Western Caucasus. It is characteristic, moreover, that, when explaining the advantages of a landing on the Black Sea coast of the Caucasus, Evans stressed the possibility of utilizing as "auxiliary forces" the Caucasians living there, whom he recommended as "unsubdued, militant and hating the Russians."

Thus the idea of using the Caucasians of the Northwest Caucasus as "cannon fodder" in the struggle against Russia was hatched in British military circles as early as 25 years before the Crimean War of 1853-1856.

In the mid-1830s the British press again launched an anti-Russian campaign. Corrupt journalists, inspired by the aggressive circles of the bourgeoisie, contended that Turkey had no right to concede to Russia the completely sovereign "Cherkessia" which was, supposedly, a federation of independent tribes and embraced a big part of the territory of the Caucasian highlands. At the same time the thought was persistently propagated that Britain was vitally interested in the existence of an "independent Cherkessia," inasmuch as it was the "gateway to India." This thought, in particular, was propagandized by the notorious Russophobe D. Urquhart. He asserted that Cherkessia "possesses powerful means of resisting Russia" and that "it is a valuable ally of Britain, possessing in addition great natural resources." Urquhart called on the British government to activate its policy in the Black Sea region and to prevent Russia from asserting herself in the Caucasus.

Having recognized the Caucasus as the "gateway to India," it was not difficult, of course, to go as far as to come to an understanding that, "Cherkessia" constituted the "bastion of India" and this thesis, put forward by Urquhart, became a favorite motif of British propaganda for whole decades.

Asserting that "Cherkessia" defended India, British propaganda tried to justify the aggressive designs of its government in respect to the Caucasus and the adjacent regions of Asia Minor. Behind the "smoke screen" of these propagandist declarations regarding the "purely defensive" character of its policy, the British government launched wide espionage-diversionary activity in the Northwest Caucasus.

British agents expanded their subversive activity in the Northwest Caucasus by making use of the old links of the Turkish aggressors with the representatives of the Adygei aristocracy and the local Moslem clergy. At the same time they also made use of the methods, applied earlier by the Turks, of organizing political diversions and ideological pressure, in particular, propagandizing the ideas of militant pan-Islam, one of the variants of which was muridism, known to the Caucasians of the Northwest Caucasus since the time of the activity there of Sheik Mansur, who tried, on the assignment of the Turkish ruling circles, to unite the Caucasian Moslems under the flag of a "holy war" at the end of the 18th century.

Undoubtedly erroneous is the conception that the local feudal hierarchy of the Adygei tribes always maintained a Russian orientation, whereas the bulk of the Caucasians were allegedly always hostile to Russia and listened sympathetically to the proponents of muridism, expecting assistance from "dissident" Turkey. In reality it was precisely the local exploiting elements, interested in the slave trade and encouraged by the Turks, that were the primary proponents of Turkish influence and the propagandists of militant Islam.

Contrary to the mendacious assertions that followers of Shamil were guided by the ideas of the creation of an independent "Cherkess state," their activity only pursued the aim of rallying the Adygei tribes into a military alliance directed against Russia and sponsored and politically controlled by Turkey and Britain.

The real historical setting that arose in the Caucasus and in the Black Sea region in the middle of the 19th century altogether excluded the possibility of the creation of an independent "Cherkess state." It was a question not only of ethnic and political disunity, the motley nature of the social-economic structures, the primitive economic forms and the immaturity of the social relations of the mountain tribes. Their incapability to resist the economic, political and military expansion of external forces was of decisive importance in the given instance.

The Caucasians were faced by two paths: either to associate themselves with Russia, which would ensure for them external security and the prospect of economic and cultural development, or to be swallowed up by the backward Turkey of the Sultans, with subsequent transformation into colonial slaves of British capitalism. Shamil's followers and other ringleaders of reactionary muridism lured the Caucasians along the second path, making them a blind instrument of the predatory policy of Turkey and Britain.

By 1864 the muridist movement in the Northwest Caucasus had suffered its final defeat. Having broken the resistance of the murids, the Russian forces occupied all the basic strategic points on the east coast of the Black Sea. Anglo-Turkish agents at this time did everything possible to prevent resettlement of the maritime Adygeis to the Kuban (where the Russian government allotted them land) and to force them to resettle in Turkey. Thus was it proposed to make use of them in the future in a struggle against Russia. As a result of this tens of thousands of Caucasians, deceived by the pronouncements of muridism, resettled in Turkey and perished in Turkish concentration camps and the rest were subsequently subjected to forcible Turkification. This was the culmination of the criminal, provocational policy which the ruling circles of Turkey and Britain followed for more than half a century toward the mountain tribes of the Caucasus.

Those of the Caucasians who did not succumb to the agitation of the Anglo-Turkish provocateurs and remained in the Caucasus, although they found themselves under the yoke of Tsarism, nevertheless received the opportunity to cooperate with the great Russian people and to associate themselves with the advanced Russian culture.

The history of the muridist movement in the Northwest Caucasus completely corroborates the fact that, being an offspring of frenzied Moslem fanaticism, muridism was used as an instrument for aggression and a device for the enslavement of peoples, and never had anything in common with the interests of the working people. Exposure of this reactionary role of muridism is of topical importance in our time, when the Anglo-American imperialists and their Turkish yes-men are trying to make use of the decrepit Pan-Islam and Pan-Turkic slogans for the purposes of ideological preparations for war against the Soviet Union and the people's democracies.

ON THE NATURE OF THE 1916 MOVEMENT IN TURKMENIA. (By Yu. Tarasov. Voprosy istorii, No. 9, September [published in late November], 1951, pp. 111-117. 5000 words. Condensed text:) Ashkhabad—The Council of Ministers' decision regarding Guseinov's book, in which the Shamil movement is idealized, is of immense importance for our historical science and mobilizes historians to fight against the remnants of bourgeois nationalist influences.

In a number of Soviet republics historians and men of letters have idealized the past, assessing reactionary national movements as progressive and revolutionary ones; they have approached in a one-sided manner the question of the annexation of their countries by Tsarist Russia, seeing in this only evil and forgetting the positive, progressive sides of the annexation.

Individual works, lectures and utterances by the historians of Turkmenia are also not free from the remnants of nationalist influences, which was manifested especially in depiction of the events of 1916 in Turkmenia. The majority of the historians of Turkmenia view these events from incorrect political and theoretical positions, distort their character, appraising them as a progressive movement of national liberation. In actual fact the 1916 movement in Turkmenia must be regarded as a reactionary, nationalist movement, a movement which was subordinated to the interests of the small feudal-patriarchal hierarchy orientated toward Turkey, Germany, Persia and Afghanistan.

If it had succeeded it would have led to the separation of Turkmenia from Russia and its annexation by Persia (under the title of an autonomous Turkmenian khanate) which would have been immediately used by Germany, Turkey, Persia, Afghanistan and especially Britain. Secret agents of these powers, promising support, egged on the Turkmenian khans toward the separation of Turkmenia from Russia.

J. V. Stalin points out that not every national movement should be supported by Social Democrats and, consequently, not every national movement is progressive. "The Transcaucasian Tatars, as a nation, can assemble, let us say, in their assembly and, submitting to the influence of the beks and mullahs, restore old institutions in their country and decide to separate themselves from the state. But will this be in the interests of the working strata of the Tatar nation?" *

Thus the question of the liberation movements on the national environs of the former Russian Empire is a complex question. To attribute a liberating character to all movements would be a profound mistake—"the solution of the national question is possible only in connection with the historical conditions of their development." †

The striving of the feudal-patriarchal hierarchy of Turkmenia in 1916 for separation from Russia cannot be called a liberation movement although part of the peasant masses of Turkmenia also took part in this movement, intimidated and deceived by agents of foreign powers—by the feudal-patriarchal and spiritual exploiters of the Turkmenian people and by direct agents of Persia, Turkey, Germany and Afghanistan. ...

The following conclusions may be drawn from the facts of the 1916 movement:

First, the opposition in 1916 of part of the peasant masses of Turkmenia to Tsarist Russia cannot be called a national liberation movement, much less a revolutionary movement.

Second, the movement was organized and stirred up by the Turkmenian feudal-patriarchal and clerical hierarchy—agents of Persia, Turkey and Germany.

Third, the demands which the feudal-patriarchal and clerical hierarchy put forward were reactionary: a return to the old feudal-patriarchal institutions, expulsion of the Russians from Turkmenia, annexation to Persia and Afghanistan and later on to Turkey.

Fourth, the bulk of the peasants of Turkmenia did not participate in this movement. It was chiefly tribes of Yomuds from regions bordering on Persia that took part.

Fifth, the methods of fighting were not revolutionary (burning of Russian settlements, attacks on frontier posts, blowing up bridges, dismantling railroad tracks, destroying telegraph communications and murdering railroad workers and employees).

The 1916 movement in Turkmenia militated against the establishment of a united front between the Turkmenian working people and the Russian working class; the movement was anti-Russian. The most backward part of the nomadic Turkmenian tribes bordering on Persia and headed by their "own" feudal-patriarchal hierarchy took part in it. But the most class-conscious part of these tribes and also the whole bulk of the Turkmenians did not participate in this anti-Russian movement.

One must dwell on the gross distortions of the 1916 events which Prof. G. N. Nepesov committed. Nepesov calls this movement "national liberation," yes, and moreover, "revolutionary" (?). Prof. Nepesov's description of the movement showed remnants of nationalist influences in the study of events of the past.

Nepesov idealizes Dzhunaid Khan and his assistant, Shammi-Kel. Prof. Nepesov calls the nationalist uprising of the Turkmenian Yomuds in Khiva in 1916, inspired by Germany and Turkey and headed by Dzhunaid Khan and Shammi-Kel, a revolutionary movement, noting only that Dzhunaid Khan betrayed the insurgents.

Prof. Nepesov strives in his book to gloss over Dzhunaid Khan's connection with the Turks and the Germans and thus idealizes Dzhunaid Khan. He writes: "It may be considered that the incredibly loud clamor which the Tsarist generals in Khiva, Tashkent and Petrograd raised about Dzhunaid Khan as an agent of the Turkish-German intelligence service pursued specific political aims. The denunciation of Dzhunaid Khan as a German-Turkish agent was to have concealed from public opinion the chief causes of the national liberation movement in colonial Khiva and to justify the punitive expedition of the Tsarist generals."

Nepesov attributes the anti-Russian actions of Dzhunaid Khan to Shammi-Kel and again calls these actions revolutionary.

It may be asked: Could a man who was the chief assistant of Dzhunaid Khan conduct a policy different from that of Dzhunaid Khan himself? In order to portray Shammi-Kel in a better light Nepesov thought up for him some kind of a revolutionary program. But since this program cannot be found in any archive document whatsoever, owing to the fact that Shammi-Kel operated under the same program as Dzhunaid Khan, Prof. Nepesov refers to the testimony of eyewitnesses; yet the majority of eyewitnesses adopted a negative attitude to Shammi-Kel, did not recognize him as the revolutionary leader of the Turkmenian people and regarded him as a basmach, a bandit like Dzhunaid Khan. ...

And so the assessment of the 1916 movement in Turkmenia is in need of fundamental revision.

* J. V. Stalin, "Works" [in Russian], Vol. II, p. 312
† Ibid., p. 314.

New Volume on Modern History of the Middle East

Criticism and Review: 'STUDIES IN THE MODERN HISTORY OF COUNTRIES OF THE MIDDLE EAST.' (Reviewed by A. M. Osipov. Sovetskaya kniga, No. 8, August [published in September], 1951, pp. 64-68. 3800 words. Condensed text:) With the exception of the articles by N. M. Goldberg, I. M. Reisner and N. Filroze, the collection under review * consists of dissertations presented for diplomas by students of the Oriental Division of the Department of History of Moscow State University. Broad education in history, resting on the firm base of Marxist-Leninist methodology, has enabled these young historians of the Orient, embarking on their careers in scholarship, to present and settle a number of important questions of the history of foreign lands of the East.

The collection begins with an article by N. Sosina, "On the Question of the State Language in the Union of India." The timeliness of this theme is beyond doubt. The question of the state language in the Union of India and in Pakistan as well, has become, through the reactionary national policy of their present rulers, an acute political problem. The author of the article, relying on the Leninist-Stalinist doctrine on the nation and the national question, exposes this reactionary policy, justly seeing in the attempt of the government of the Union of India to foist a uniform state language on all the peoples living on its territory a continuation of the former British policy of smothering the profoundly progressive aspiration of these peoples for national consolidation.

The article elucidates the history of the origin of the contemporary national languages of India and the struggle of the peoples of India for their reunion within the limits of united national autonomous regions and for the right to use their native language. Exposing the antipopular national policy of the present governing party in India, the Indian National Congress, the author contrasts it with the genuinely democratic program of the Indian Communist Party, which supports the Leninist-Stalinist principle of the right of nations to self-determination and supports the popular demand for the reorganization of the present administrative division of India and the establishment of provinces on the basis of language.

Sound in its main points, the article would undoubtedly have

* "Studies in the Modern History of Countries of the Middle East—India, Afghanistan, Iran," edited by I. M. Reisner and N. M. Goldberg, Moscow State University Publishing House, Moscow, 1951.

gained if its author had contrasted the reactionary nationality policy and practice of the government of the Indian Union with the historic results of the Leninist-Stalinist national policy carried out in the multinational Soviet Union, a policy which set up the mighty brotherhood of peoples that revealed such strength during the great patriotic war. The author would have succeeded in revealing the roots of the antipopular national policy of the Indian government and the Indian National Congress more deeply if the article had taken stock of the fact that the national question in India is primarily and principally a peasant question. ...

G. Kotovsky's "The Agrarian Program of the Indian National Congress Between 1885 and 1917" must also be noted as very interesting. For the first time in our literature on the policy of the Indian National Congress such valuable materials have been employed as the records of the congresses of the National Congress, and a thorough analysis of the speeches made by such outstanding figures as Dadabhai Naoroji, P. C. Dutt and M. G. Ranade has been given. Kotovsky convincingly reveals the bourgeois-landlord nature of the agrarian program, on the basis of these sources. ...

The third and last article in the Indian section of the book is written by N. M. Goldberg. The subject of the article is an analysis of the changes which took place in the Indian Army during the second world war.

Goldberg has written more than one work about the Indian Army. A good knowledge of its history has enabled him to make a number of interesting comparisons between the composition of the Indian Army up to the last world war and its composition during the war. The author draws the important conclusion that in the course of the war the Indian Army turned, against the will and desires of the British, from an army composed of a small number of selected nationalities and religious communities into an army containing all the main nationalities and nations of India. Unfortunately, the author has confined himself to stating this fact and has drawn no political conclusions from it, in particular failing to reveal the connection between the above-mentioned changes in the Indian Army and the unrest and even insurrections which took place in the Indian Army after the end of the second world war.

In the Afghan section of the book, which, by the way, has been inordinately extended, mainly at the cost of the section on India, there is an interesting work by I. M. Reisner entitled "The Emergence and Decline of the Durani State."

This describes the history of the decline of the primeval social structure of the Afghan tribes and the appearance of feudal relations among them, which led to the creation of Ahmad Shah Durani's state; gives a description of the political organization of that state and defines the historical role of the Durani state in the process of the further development of feudal relations among the Afghans. The article ends with an analysis of the internal contradictions which led to the fall of the Durani state. ...

L. Gordon's article is on the history of Afghanistan's struggle against British aggression at the end of the 19th century. Like V. Romodin, Gordon has made use of a great deal of interesting material and on the basis of it has given a correct estimate of the aggressive policy of British imperialism in Northwest India and its results for the Afghan people. The sections in which the author describes the policy of the Afghan Emir Abdur Rahman Khan and the struggle of the Afghan tribes on the Northwest frontier of India against the British after the Anglo-Afghan agreement of 1893 will be read with particular interest. The article is particularly valuable because it reveals the independent part played by Afghanistan in the inter-imperialist contradictions in Central Asia at the end of the 19th century, when it was not merely a pawn in the hands of rival world imperialist powers, as it is generally considered in existing literature about Afghanistan.

The only serious shortcoming in the work is the idealization of Abdur Rahman Khan. The author correctly notes the progressive side of his policy, which was aimed at establishment of a strong, centralized feudal state, a policy which ensured his internal independence, but fails to stress sufficiently that all the Emir's aggressive policy in the North, an area inhabited by Tadzhiks and Uzbeks, was in the final account in the interests of the British and in contradiction to the national interests of the Afghans. ...

The Iranian section of the book contains four articles. Two of them are on medieval Iran: the article by N. Filroze, "On the Question of the Forms of Land Property in the Safawid State" and the article by K. Ashrafian "The Fall of the Safawid State (1502-1722)" ...

The other two articles are about events of the recent period. N. Alenteva has made successful use of the wealth of absolutely accurate information in the Soviet press and has given a lively and interesting description of the events leading to the overthrow of the Kajar dynasty and the establishment of the dictatorship of Reza Shah. An article by L. Chistyakova describes the history of the democratic movement in Iran between 1941 and 1946. The main subject of this work is the activity of the People's Party and the Central Council of Iranian Trade Unions. The principal value of this work is in the documentation on which it is based, and in particular the translation from the Persian of the full text of the draft Labor Law produced by the Central Council of Iranian Trade Unions.

I should like to conclude this review of these studies in the modern history of countries of the Middle East by expressing my confidence that the successful venture which is being made in publishing the best works by students of the history faculty of Moscow University will not end with this book but will become a custom with the university.

Northern Peoples—Tribal Units to Collective Farms

ON THE QUESTION OF THE TRANSITION OF PEOPLES OF THE SOVIET NORTH TO SOCIALISM WITHOUT GOING THROUGH THE STAGE OF CAPITALISM. (By S. Yakubovskaya. Voprosy istorii, No. 8, August [published in late September], 1951, pp. 80-88. 7000 words. Condensed text:) ... The task of the transition of a number of peoples from a patriarchal and patriarchal-feudal system to socialism without going through the stage of capitalism, and thus the task of saving these peoples from the torments of capitalism, has been successfully solved by the Communist Party for all the peoples in our country, including those nationalities, the process of whose consolidation into socialist nations is not yet fully completed. This direct transition from primitive forms of society to socialism, which has been carried out in our country, has world-historic significance and fully deserves to be the subject of comprehensive and profound study, research and generalization. This research and generalization has special significance also because our country is a great and inspiring example for oppressed peoples of the whole world and a great example for all countries embarking on the path of socialism.

The process of forming peoples who have not yet gone through the capitalist stage of development into socialist nations vividly demonstrates the superiority of the Soviet socialist system over the capitalist system and testifies to the all-conquering force of the ideas of Leninism, which have been put into effect in our country under the leadership of the party of Lenin and Stalin.

However, not all peoples who had not passed through the capitalist stage of development before the socialist October revolution have by now become socialist nations. Thus, for example, in the North of the country and in the North Caucasus, together with socialist nations there exist Soviet nationalities, the process of whose consolidation into socialist nations has not yet been completed. However, these nationalities differ radically from the nationalities of the pre-October period. The basis of their existence is, as for all peoples in our country, socialist production relations. These nationalities participate actively in building communism and differ from socialist na-

tions only in the degree of development of the attributes of a nation. ...

Unfortunately, the process of the transition of peoples from a patriarchal and patriarchal-feudal system to socialism and the process of their formation into socialist nations has hitherto not found its reflection in our historical literature. In certain works this question is simply ignored. An example of this is the collection "The Progressive Influence of the Great Russian Nation on the Development of the Yakut People," published in Yakutsk in 1950.* In this book the question of the hampering role of survivals of the patriarchal-tribal system in socialist construction and in the process of consolidating peoples into socialist nations is also completely ignored. However, the correct elucidation of this question has no small significance for investigating the process of development of certain peoples from the patriarchal and patriarchal-feudal system to socialism, without going through the stage of capitalism. Correct elucidation of this question is also particularly essential because even now in the works of certain historians a kind of idealization of survivals of the patriarchal and patriarchal-feudal system is to be observed and a tendency is manifested to interpret socialist production relations, which have arisen as a result of the victory of socialism, as a direct continuation, development and generalization of tribal relations.

Thus, A. F. Anisimov in his work "The Tribal Society of the Evenki" (1936) points to the positive role in socialist construction of primitive forms of production associations which have been preserved among the local population. S. A. Tokarev, noting in his monograph "Precapitalist Survivals in Oirotia" the dual role of the patriarchal-tribal survivals, is nonetheless inclined to idealize them. "These traditions" (tribal—S. Ya.), he writes, "are hostile to the individualistic habits of capitalism and in essence facilitate the establishment of new collective forms of labor."

Idealization of survivals of the patriarchal-tribal system takes Prof. S. A. Tokarev so far that he attributes the, in his opinion, outstanding cohesion of the Altai collective farms precisely to the existence of these survivals, contrasting them with the Russian collective farms. "I could not ignore the fact," he writes, "that very often it is precisely the Altai collective farms which give an impression of being particularly cohesive, united and stable, sometimes surpassing in this respect neighboring Russian collective farms."

It might have been possible not to dwell on a refutation of these clearly erroneous conclusions, inasmuch as both works —by A. F. Anisimov and S. A. Tokarev—were published quite a long time ago and the authors have possibly now revised their views, but two circumstances require this. First, these works are the only research of their kind on the given question and young people learn from them, yet a number of the erroneous conclusions which they contain have so far not been questioned by anyone. Secondly, the views expressed by Anisimov and Tokarev on the positive role of tribal survivals in socialist construction are sometimes also reflected in quite recent works. Thus, in the journal Sovetskaya etnografia [Soviet Ethnography], No. 1, 1950, an article was published entitled "From the Tribal System to Socialism" (based on materials from the Yamalo-Nenets National Region), the author of which, M. M. Brodnev, considers the tribal system to be a direct basis of the collective farm system and collective farms to be a further development of tribal associations. "Practice has shown," he writes, "that there is no danger in forming collective farms from representatives of one tribe and there is no need to fear such associations." Speaking particularly eulogistically, evidently with reason, about one collective farm, Brodnev, like Tokarev, is inclined to attribute the good work of this collective farm precisely to the fact that it consists of representatives of one tribe. The collective farm form of self-government, in Brodnev's opinion, springs from tribal forms of self-government.

Naturally, Soviet practice permits the formation of collective farms uniting representatives of one tribe. Such collective farms frequently exist and function quite well. Can one, however, on this basis draw the conclusion that the tribal system is a natural basis for forming collective farms among previously backward nationalities, in particular the nationalities of the North? In our opinion this is quite inadmissible. Such a deduction is nothing but idealization of survivals of the tribal system, which is to be found among Soviet historians and particularly ethnographers. Of course, not all ethnographers make this mistake. Thus, L. P. Potapov characterizes the role of these survivals quite rightly when he writes: "The preservation of these tribal traditions has very much hindered the social development of the Altai inhabitants. Their rapid elimination and the liberation of the individual, particularly of women, from the patriarchal-tribal shackles was within the power of the socialist system and the culture it produced." (Soviet Ethnography, No. 1, 1948). In correctly defining and solving the question of the role of survivals of the tribal system, Potapov does not, however, give a comprehensive theoretical and concrete-historical refutation of the erroneous conclusions drawn by scholars who idealize these survivals. However, this kind of idealization objectively results in false interpretation of socialist production relations, underestimation of the significance of the socialist form of national economy as the highest of all forms which have existed in the history of mankind; it renders devoid of meaning the tremendous leap forward made in the development of a number of peoples and nationalities in the transition from patriarchal and patriarchal-feudal forms of national economy to socialism. Thereby it objectively belittles the role of the Party and the Soviet regime in the process of reorganizing the social system and the life of these peoples.

The idealization of survivals of the patriarchal-tribal system arises, in our view, chiefly from a false conception on the part of individual scholars of the teaching of the classics of Marxism-Leninism and particularly the statements of Marx and Engels on the Russian commune. As is known Marx and Engels, in the preface to the Russian edition of the "Communist Manifesto" and also in other works, pointed to the possibility of the development of backward countries to socialism without going through the stage of capitalism, if aid were extended to them by countries of the victorious proletariat. However, neither Marx nor Engels ever regarded either the land commune or any other form of survival of tribal relations as a direct basis for the creation of socialist production relations. On the contrary, they make quite clear statements that such social forms cannot be a direct basis for socialism. ...

The basic condition for such a leap forward is the triumph of the socialist revolution and establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat. The Soviet scholars named above are of course well acquainted with the statements of Lenin and Stalin regarding this basic condition determining the possibility of the transition of peoples from a patriarchal and patriarchal-feudal system to socialism without going through the stage of capitalism. But in interpreting these statements they often commit errors which are to be explained by the same incorrect conception of survivals of tribal relations as a direct basis for the creation of socialist production relations. The aid of the Russian proletariat to the peoples of our country in the liquidation of their economic, political and cultural backwardness they frequently characterize as chiefly material and cultural aid, losing sight of the main thing—that only the creation of Soviet statehood by the proletariat as a result of the victory of the great October socialist revolution enabled the peoples and nationalities of our country who had been most backward in the past to join in active participation in the establishment of socialism. ...

Soviet statehood, created by the Russian working class under the leadership of the party of Bolsheviks, made possible the development of these peoples along the path of socialism. It was precisely in the establishment, development and consolidation of the Soviet system that the great aid of the Russian working class to all previously backward peoples in our country showed itself above all. This circumstance is often insufficiently borne in mind by our historians and ethnographers. In certain cases, in particular in some works devoted to the peoples of the North, they even make attempts to represent the establishment and consolidation of the Soviet form of statehood in these nationalities as a kind of evolution of tribal forms of self-government.

* Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. III, No. 49, pp. 10-11.

This takes place as a result of incorrect understanding of the policy of the Party and Soviet government toward peoples who have not yet passed through the capitalist stage of development, in particular peoples of the North. ...

The transition to socialism of peoples who have preserved primitive forms of society is difficult and complicated, contrary to the opinion of many scholars who consider that the habits created by these forms of society "facilitate the establishment of socialism." In leading these peoples onto the path of socialism the Party took into consideration all the characteristics of their social system and did not attempt to break it in a hurry. But the fact that these characteristics were taken into account did not at all mean that the implanting and consolidating of Soviet statehood among such peoples took place by means of deviation from the general pattern of development of the working class. Bearing in mind the concrete historical peculiarities of development of each nation and nationality, the Party carried out the general line directed toward the victory of socialism in our country. This is also clearly to be seen from the example of the nationalities of the North.

The renaissance of the Northern peoples, their transformation into active participants in the struggle for establishment of communism, the successes achieved by them in the process of consolidation into socialist nations, are one of the great, historic achievements of the Soviet regime. The grandeur of the successes of the economic, political and cultural development of the peoples of the Soviet North becomes particularly clear when one recalls the terrible situation and the dying out of the Northern peoples of America as a result of their monstrous exploitation by the U.S. imperialists. The renaissance of the peoples of the Soviet North testifies vividly to the great vital force of the Soviet system and to the complete contrast between the policy carried out by the Soviet regime of comprehensive assistance to peoples who have not passed through the capitalist stage of development and the policy of extermination and cruel exploitation carried out by American imperialism toward similar peoples.

The main lever for the reorganization of the social system and life of Northern peoples, the main condition which determined the possibility of preventing them from dying out and turning them into vital, socialist nationalities which are gradually being consolidated into nations, was the introduction, consolidation and development among them of the foundation of the Soviet state system. ...

The creation of tribal Soviets was a temporary measure of the Soviet regime, resulting from the necessity not to break down the tribal forms by force, but to overcome them by developing the political and class awareness of the poorest section of the population of the North. This line of struggle for the liquidation of tribal survivals, the line of development of the class and political awareness of the poor class, has been tirelessly carried out by the Party and the Soviet regime during the whole period of the struggle for construction of socialism. The development of the class and political awareness of the poorest section of the population of the North was effected above all thanks to the establishment of close and constant ties between the peoples of the North and the Russian working class, the Russian socialist nation. The overcoming of tribal survivals, the liberation of the mass of rank-and-file members of the tribe from the influence of tribal leaders, took place as a result of a number of political and social measures carried out by the Soviet agencies. The Party and the Soviet regime constantly guided the Soviet agencies which dealt with the peoples of the North to struggle against survivals of the tribal system and for development of the political awareness of the working people. ...

The Party constantly bore in mind the singularities of the development of peoples with a patriarchal and patriarchal-feudal system, but the development of these peoples to socialism took place on the basis of the general pattern of strengthening the dictatorship of the proletariat. Consideration of the singularities was manifested chiefly in determining the tempos of socialist construction and in those special forms of the policy the Party and the Soviet regime carried out toward these peoples. Thus, there can be no question of any cultivation of survivals of the tribal system. Both in the process of creating Soviet statehood and in the struggle for socialist construction the survivals of the tribal system among these peoples played a negative and hampering role. They also played a clearly negative role in the process of collectivization. ...

Scholars who express the thought that the existence of survivals of the tribal system to a certain extent facilitates collectivization thereby logically come to the ridiculous conclusion that this process takes place more easily and more rapidly with peoples who have a patriarchal and patriarchal-feudal system than with advanced nations. It is quite clear that such a conclusion is in utter contradiction to concrete historical facts.

The transition of a number of peoples of our country from a patriarchal and patriarchal-feudal system to socialism without going through the capitalist stage of development was a gigantic leap forward of world-historic significance. This transition was carried out under the guidance of the party of Lenin and Stalin on the basis of dictatorship of the proletariat. In bringing these peoples into the construction of socialism, the party of Lenin and Stalin bore in mind all the characteristics of their social system and did not operate, in Stalin's expression, "by cavalry charge," did not resort to a hasty breakdown of existing customs and traditions. However, the development of these peoples along the socialist path took place on the basis of the general laws of development of Soviet society and state and in the struggle to overcome the patriarchal-tribal survivals which acted as a brake on the development of the peoples along the path of progress.

The idealization of patriarchal-tribal survivals proceeds from a false and methodologically erroneous point of view and leads to mistaken theoretical and political conclusions. Such idealization not only distorts the true character of the historical process of bringing previously backward peoples in our country to socialism, but it can also inflict practical harm on the further struggle of the peoples of our country for the establishment of communism. The victory of socialism in the U.S.S.R. has liquidated the multistructural character of the Soviet economy, including the structure which was connected with the existence of patriarchal-tribal relations. However, survivals of these relations in the minds of individual representatives of previously backward nationalities have undoubtedly not yet been completely overcome.

Idealization of primitive collectivisim and other survivals of the patriarchal-tribal system can only exert a negative influence on the struggle for further consolidation of the collective farm system among previously backward peoples, on the struggle for the creation of the conditions essential for the transition to communism.

Izvestia Surveys Composers' New Work

ON NEW MUSIC. (By Marian Koval. Izvestia, Jan. 12, p. 2. 2000 words. Condensed text:) The Party Central Committee's decree on the opera "Great Friendship" condemned the formalist trend in music as antipopular and as leading to the ruin of music. The Party Central Committee called on composers to write works marked by their "inner content, wealth of melodies and breadth of range, their folk quality and their elegant, beautiful and clear musical form*** "

A number of works in answer to this call by the Party were performed at the fifth plenary session of the board of the Union of Soviet Composers.* It is especially gratifying to note the great growth of the young composers, representatives of our multinational homeland.

The young Georgian composer Otar Taktakishvili wrote an inspired and skillful piano concerto in which he expressed the joyous feelings of men who live in the land of the people's happiness. The young Stalin Prize winning Turkmenian composer Velimukhamed Mukhatov has written a symphonic poem "My Homeland," which gives bold development to the national form. The chamber works by the young Georgian composer S. Tsintsadze draw clear pictures of the people's character, while the composer I. Karosas' "Lithuanian Dances" for violin and piano are very much akin to S. Tsintsadze's cello pieces. The young composer L. Afanasyev has written a beautiful lyric violin concerto in the best Russian tradition.

The plenary session heard three symphonic program pieces: G. Gadzhiyev's poem "For Peace," A. Mazayev's poem "People From Krasnodon" and A. Shtogarenko's "Lesya Ukrainka Suite." ...

Dm. Shostakovich's choral suite is built on the fruitful base of Russian revolutionary songs and marks an important stage in his creative reorientation to socialist realism.† B. Shekhter's "Fifth Symphony" is in harmony with Dm. Shostakovich's choral suite. In this symphony the composer has shown himself to be a profound symphonic writer. The symphony's slow movement is based on two well-known Russian revolutionary songs and creates a particularly strong impression.

The attention given by the composers to vital themes of the present day enriches their work and creates the necessary conditions for more profound and integrated mastery of craftsmanship. The composers Yu. Levitin and V. Sorokin, who submitted the oratorios "Lights Over the Volga" and "Alexander Matrosov" at the plenary session, are close to such mastery of ideological content.

In Yu. Levitin's oratorio the theme of the great construction project is naturally intertwined with the theme of peace. Both the music and the text of the oratorio (words by D. Sedykh) are written in an expansive manner and convey the grandeur of construction and the joy of the participants in magnificent creative labor. However, an excess of discordant orchestral effects and shouted climaxes spoils the impression given by this faithfully and interestingly conceived oratorio.

One is attracted in V. Sorokin's oratorio (written to a libretto by V. Guryan) by mighty choruses, conceived in the spirit of mass songs but more highly developed and more complex. The oratorio also has serious shortcomings: the orchestral part is extremely superficial and thin, and the vocal part of the hero lacks expressiveness.

The outstanding successes of composers in writing music for Russian folk instrument orchestras should be noted. The works of V. Khvatov, G. Tikhomirov, L. Vishkarev, N. Chaikin, N. Ivanov, V. Zolotarev, G. Frid, Andrei Novikov, V. Levashov and others, which were performed at the session ,considerably enrich the literature for folk instruments. The performance of many contemporary folk songs gathered and arranged by Comrades Aksyuk, Koposov, Nesterov, Novikov, Levashov, Mosolov, Gutin and Stepnevsky, a group of composers enthusiastic about this excellent initiative, constituted a major event for our music in general. These songs were on a much higher artistic level than most of the original works performed during the song recital. The song writers have something to think about. Apparently complacency and detachment from the life of the people is still expressed in the work of some of our composers. This has been reflected not only in songs but in larger works as well. The insufficiently discerning and critical selection at the plenary session resulted in the performance of poor works not deserving of general public attention.

The vestiges of formalism still live in our music. They are sometimes manifested in open, undisguised form as, for example, in B. Lyatoshinsky's faulty and grossly naturalistic "Symphony No. 3." ... Some composers still employ the folk song as material for musical embroidery, for all sorts of formal inventions. Such, for example, is the overture on Russian themes by the young Moscow composer A. Chugayev. G. Popov's new string quartet is also formalist.

The concert of new symphonic and choral works by students of the Moscow State Conservatory raised doubts as to some of the methods of training young composers, A. Chugayev's unsuccessful overture was followed by a performance of Ye. Svetlanov's weak piano concerto, which was a model of superficial pen-pushing aimed at cheap success. A. Babayev's teacher left uncriticized many false passages in Babayev's symphony. In his cantata "Sun Over China" the talented composer G. Grigoryan was entirely carried away by his search for vivid coloring and produced a very discordant, jarring work.

The fifth plenary session of the board of the Union of Soviet Composers devoted much time to problems of opera writing. Operas are loved by the people and exert a tremendous influence through their combination of music, words, drama, the dance and painting. However, it is precisely in this vital field of creative music that failures were most numerous.

The lack of ideologically and artistically valid librettos undoubtedly had an effect here, but the composers were mainly to blame. They devoted entirely insufficient attention to improving their craftsmanship. ...

The plenary session heard a report on the state and aims of opera writing and on several operas written by Soviet composers in recent years. The best of these were without doubt Yu. Shaporin's "The Decembrists," D. Kabalevsky's "Taras' Family" and Yu. Meitus's "The Young Guard." Even these operas were not lacking in shortcomings, however. In the opera "The Decembrists" the composer took advantage of the opportunities of the opera genre...but the dramaturgy of the opera as a whole is weak. ... The authors and the theater are working intensely on a final revision, the stage production of which can become a major event in the country's music life. In "Taras' Family," which the theaters have already produced, Dm. Kabalevsky failed to make full use of the opportunities provided in S. Tsenin's generally successful libretto. ...

The plenary session's resolution on problems of opera writing notes the limited ideological-political and cultural horizon of many composers who have undertaken to write operas. It stresses in particular the necessary relationship between the correct conception of works and the composers' profound knowledge of the life and history of their homeland. The Committee on Affairs of the Arts and the secretariat of the Union of Soviet Composers must take rapid and decisive steps to spur opera composers on to greater activity.

Much was said at the plenary session about the way in which music critics still lag behind life and the vital tasks confronting music. It is true that in recent years a number of successful and interesting articles on music have been printed, but on the whole our musicology is not meeting the demands made of it by the Party or playing an active role in abetting the creative growth of workers in music.

(Continued on Page 24)

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* [For earlier comment on this session see Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. III, No. 48, p. 12.]

† [For Marian Koval's evaluation of recent work by Shostakovich see the Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. III, No. 48, pp. 11-12.]

World Politics

CHURCHILL'S VISIT

ON TRUMAN-CHURCHILL TALKS IN WASHINGTON. (Pravda, Jan. 11, p. 4; Izvestia, p. 3. Complete text:) Washington (Tass) —As is known, British Prime Minister Churchill is in Washington where he is holding talks with Truman. On Jan. 9 the White House released a statement by Truman and Churchill on these discussions.

It is apparent from this statement that a wide range of questions was discussed. But the statement summing up the discussion for the most part goes no further than recording a "better understanding of ideas and objectives" of the parties involved.

In commenting on the Truman-Churchill conference the American newspapers and information services are compelled to admit that in essence these discussions ended in failure, that they did not yield desirable results for the U.S. government or the British government on a single cardinal issue.

Shortly before the conference opened the American press noted that the Truman government's chief objective in the talks with Churchill was to work out a "common line of action" for the U.S.A. and Britain regarding the Soviet Union, the Far East, Asia, the Near and Middle East, to remove "mutual suspicion" and "reach an understanding on the question of forming a European army," to alter Britain's policy on the Chinese People's Republic, having Britain break off diplomatic relations with China, to eliminate differences between the U.S.A. and Britain regarding policy on Iran, Egypt and other Near and Middle Eastern countries and on Asia, and also to settle other major foreign policy issues in which an aggravation of Anglo-American contradictions is apparent.

American press reports make it clear that a "concerted decision" was reached on hardly any of these questions.

In an article from Washington on Jan. 9 which sizes up the results of the conference and refers to statements by official spokesmen in Washington, The New York Times' correspondent Reston states that everybody in Washington is assuming that "so far nothing concrete has been achieved" and that "the two leaders did not resolve the difficulties and differences of opinion in Anglo-American relations which have arisen in the past two years."

In an article from Washington, also referring to the opinion of "officials," New York Herald Tribune correspondent Russell notes that agreement was reached on few questions. He explains this by the fact that "Churchill came to Washington more in order to get acquainted with President Truman's ideas and policy than to seek basic changes in the policy issues on which they differ."

AP states that "according to informed persons no important decisions came out of the conference." UP gives a similar appraisal.

Dwelling on individual issues of Anglo-American contradictions which the conference showed up and on their possible aggravation in the future, The New York Times correspondent Reston points out that the present conference "did not touch on Britain's fundamental economic and financial difficulties which, more than any other factors, have complicated relations between the two countries in the past two years."

UNITED NATIONS

MISTER ACHESON'S DEFEAT.—On Failure of Yankee Aggressors' "Collective Measures" Plan. (By N. Novoselsky. Literaturnaya gazeta, Jan. 10, p. 4. 1300 words. Condensed text:) The recent discussions in the Political Committee of the U.N. General Assembly in Paris have clearly exposed the aggressive character of the American so-called "collective measures" program.

American imperialism's striving to turn the United Nations into a tool of its aggressive policy, into a tool for the preparation of a new world war, is behind this project, as it was also behind the resolution adopted at last year's , the fifth, session of the General Assembly under the false title of "Uniting for Peace."

As A. Ya. Vyshinsky stressed in his speech in the Political Committee, American aggression in Korea has shown "on the one hand the hopelessness of the adventurism of the American monopolists who undertook this war and, on the other hand, their inability to cope with the situation which has arisen in regard to their own forces in this war."

But the historic lesson of the criminal American intervention in Korea has not been in vain; the "collective measures" program drawn up by the Washington diplomats has failed. ...

The facts say: the aggression in Korea is an American war, although Britain, together with the Dominions and several other countries, are participating in it.

The American magazine U.S. News and World Report acknowledged this fact at the end of 1951 which disproves the assertion in the so-called "Collective Measures" Committee's report of the allegedly "common" participation of the capitalist member-states of the U.N. in the Korean adventure.

"Korea: U.S.A. Carries the Whole Burden. American Losses and Losses of U.N. Allies Are in 13 to 1 Ratio"—Thus the magazine headed the article which bitterly complained and was indignant about this "disproportion." ...

The article states: "There are no signs whatsoever that our country will receive more aid in the future from the allies in Korea. As the casualty lists reach continually new heights, the war in Korea increasingly acquires the character of an American war."

A convincing acknowledgement!

The leaders of the U.S.A. see a way out of this situation in an extension of aggression, in the preparation and unleashing of a new world war under cover of the U.N. flag.

As the diagram from the American magazine shows, the attempts to deceive the peoples have so far turned out badly. These attempts will not have any success in the future either; the discussion of the "collective measures" plan in the General Assembly testifies to this. American imperialism's cherished plans for world conquest and the enslavement of all peoples will be thwarted.

ATLANTIC PACT

International Review: BEHIND SCREEN OF 'EUROPEAN ARMY.' (By M. Marinin. Pravda, Jan. 14, p. 4. Complete text:) A fuss over the formation of a "European army" is going on behind the scenes. Britain's refusal to participate in a "European army" has undoubtedly been a painful blow to the plans and calculations of the American inspirers of the "Pleven Plan." They have demanded that the formation of "unified armed forces" be completed posthaste.

An obvious apprehension—that the British "example" might become infectious—is concealed behind this ultimatum. There are more than enough foundations for fears of this kind. It is well known, for example, that the Benelux countries—Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxemburg—have been cool toward the prospect of liquidating their national armed forces in the face of a revival of a fascist West German army.

All possible methods have been used to force the Benelux countries to conform to the "table of ranks" in the Atlantic alliance. In the first place, Eisenhower's boys pretended that in general they could manage without the participation of the "small partners" in a "European army," which in that case would be a German-French-Italian army.

When this clumsy game proved unsuccessful special pressure followed, and the Belgium government had to resign quickly. Sueddeutsche Zeitung recently stated: "U.S. patience has been exhausted."

Even the American press emphasizes the fact that the political crisis in France, which was reflected in the current fall of the Cabinet, presents a serious threat to the "Eisenhower mission" of forming a "European army." According to the New York Journal-American, "the Atlantic Pact military program is hanging in mid-air."

Not one of the Parliaments of the six states being drawn into the adventure of forming a "European army" has approved the "Pleven Plan;" a bitter squabble is still going on over the terms

and manner of financing a "European army" and the structure of its administration. Nevertheless the President of the U.S.A. considered it possible to state in his message to Congress: "A united defense (!) has become a reality in Europe. The countries of Western Europe "have formed real fighting forces." What was the main thing he had in mind?

Quoting authoritative representatives of Western powers, AP recently reported that the Bonn rulers are acting in conformity with a secret plan for the formation of a West German army "on an American model." This regular German army, already being formed in Western Germany, is to be included in the European armed forces which are being planned. Preparatory work is underway for mobilizing 1,250,000 Germans from 18 to 24 years of age. The French newspaper Liberation states that more than 350 German officers have been sent to the U.S.A. for suitable "retraining."

Blank, the Director of the so-called Security Administration of the Bonn government, who is actually the war minister, recently confirmed the fact that the West German army will be officially legalized in not more than eight weeks. He did not fail to specify that this army will include 12 divisions which from the very beginning will have a considerable number of tanks and aircraft at their disposal.

This is evidently the main thing the U.S. President had in mind when he spoke of the formation of "real fighting forces" in Western Europe.

However, the American politicians, hastening to count their "real forces," are obviously consoling themselves with illusions. Messrs. Adenauer, Manteuffel and Guderian can give their American masters promissory notes, but there are forces which will prevent the payment of such notes. The future of Germany belongs to them. They are resolutely opposing the criminal deals concluded by the venal clique. These forces are the German people who are closing their ranks under the banner of the struggle for peace, the unity of Germany and its conversion into a peace-loving, democratic state.

FAR EAST

International Review: AGGRESSORS' DESIGNS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. (By M. Marinin. Pravda, Jan. 14, p. 4. Complete text:) A conference of the Chiefs of Staff of the U.S.A., Britain and France is taking place in Washington. The statement issued on the talks between Truman and Churchill defined the purpose of this conference as "the discussion of measures necessary to increase the security of Southeast Asia."

In order to understand what is really at issue here, one must recall the decisions made at another military conference of these same three states in Singapore in May, 1951. The London Times reported that at the Singapore conference "not only a general agreement on strategy was reached but certain plans for movement of troops and supplies were also agreed upon." The comment of the press of the Atlantic alliance left no doubt as to the fact that the Singapore strategy was aimed at preparing a springboard for developing further aggression against the Chinese People's Republic and for military intervention in Southeast Asia.

Feverish activity followed the Singapore conference. The American military machine made Indo-China the center of its efforts, declaring it to be "the main key to strategy." In September, 1951, the French commander in chief in the Far East was summoned to Washington. France Presse reported that the French commander in chief was not only promised large deliveries of arms, but he was given assurances that the U.S.A. would repeat the "Korean experiment" at some future time, i. e., in plain language, it would start armed intervention against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

Meanwhile, according to The New York Times, during the negotiations with the French general Washington raised the question of the possibility of a closer rapprochement between France and Chiang Kai-shek in order to use his bands to carry out the "allied strategy" plan in Southeast Asia.

Having seized the Chinese island of Taiwan, the U.S. Seventh Fleet is transferring the remnants of the Kuomintang bands from there in accordance with the American military's deployment plan. At present detachments of Kuomintang bandits are stationed in Thailand, Burma and Viet Nam, directly on the border of the Chinese province of Yunnan.

It must be noted that Southeast Asia has attracted the American and other warmongers' attention in recent months. U.S. Army Chief of Staff Gen. Collins made an "inspection tour." Numerous Pentagon missions are active there and show no signs of leaving. Dewey went there, and so did Bullitt, who settled down on Taiwan for a long time.

The American Christian Science Monitor gives a clear idea of the nature of the questions discussed at the military conference in Washington. It states that the following question, among others, figures in the agenda: "Can a U.S. intervention be successful under the conditions of the vast jungles of Indo-China if it is not undertaken on a considerably larger scale than in Korea? If not, then should the U.S. intervention be confined to heavy air raids on troop concentrations and supply depots in South China and a tight naval blockade of Chinese ports?"

Following their usual tactics, the Anglo-French-American press has raised a howl over the allegedly "ripening aggression by the Chinese People's Republic." The purpose of this subversive campaign is evident—to camouflage the intensive preparations by the American-British-French bloc for new military adventures in Southeast Aisa.

China

IN LIBERATED TIBET. (Pravda, Jan. 10, p. 1. Complete text:) Peking—The units of the People's Liberation Army which have entered Tibet are cooperating in the development of the liberated population's intensive productive activity. Production committees are being organized here which, in close cooperation with state bodies, are carrying out the program for boosting and further developing the economy of the province.

All the servicemen are working in the fields, in the lumber camps which have been set up, in the coal mines and in other branches of production. The liberated people, recognizing the Chinese soldiers and officers as true friends who have come to help them, are actively supporting all the army's undertakings.

Last autumn, the Chinese soldiers, relying on the assistance of Tibetan state bodies, reclaimed land which had lain waste for many centuries. Work on the preparation and reclamation of new land is continuing even in winter. Coal deposits, detected by the soldiers of the army in the outlying districts of Lhasa, are being worked. This will solve the fuel problem for the capital of Tibet and other populated areas. Roads, bridges and houses for the population are being built in Tibet.

Soldiers who have a trade are helping the population manufacture good hammers, picks, axes, harrows and wooden ploughs. The province, which was plundered by the imperialists in the past, did not possess enough of even these simple implements.

India

WINDOW ON WORLD OF SOCIALISM (By Staff Correspondent S. Borzenko, Pravda, Jan. 13, p. 3. 2000 words. Condensed text:) Bombay—The ceremonial opening of the International Industrial Exhibit was held in Bombay.

The exhibit has aroused considerable interest among Indian industrial and commercial circles. The inhabitants of Bombay and other Indian cities who have come to see the exhibit are happy for the opportunity to learn the truth about the mighty socialist power, the truth which is so carefully hidden from them. The city's numerous hotels are full to overflowing.

Apart from the vast Soviet Pavilion, there are the Chinese People's Republic's large pavilion and the pavilions of Czechoslovakia and of Hungary. The capitalist world is represented by India, Iraq and Afghanistan. The U.S.A. and Britain are absent from the exhibit. After they received invitations, they delayed their replies in every way. Only after the Soviet Union brought its equipment, goods and building materials did these countries come to their senses and announce their desire to take part in the exhibit, demanding a reallocation of space. But it was too late.

Long before the opening of the exhibition the Soviet exhibits had attracted the attention of Indian merchants and industrialists. Comrade Nesterov, Chairman of the Presidium of the U.S.S.R. Chamber of Commerce, who was in Bombay at the invitation of

the Indian Chamber of Commerce, presented a report to the national non-comprador bourgeoisie.

After the report, which was well received by the audience, the speaker was asked a number of businesslike questions indicating the desire of Indian commercial and industrial circles to expand trade relations with the U.S.S.R. In their opinion such an agreement would contribute to the expansion and strengthening of economic ties between these two great neighboring countries.

Many visitors said that India could buy machines, chemicals, dyes, fertilizer, agricultural machines, linotypes and weaving equipment and could provide the Soviet Union with jute, shellac, tea and pepper. Vadia, Vice-Chairman of the Association of Indian Industrialists, asked about the possibility of Soviet engineers coming to India to set up their equipment. It was pointed out that the British and Americans do not want to provide India with the necessary machinery, that they are making various pretexts to drag out their delivery dates further. ...

On entering the pavilion the visitor is confronted by a new world which has been hidden from the people of India for so long and so carefully. Up to now the Indian people have heard only rarely about the gigantic transformations in the land of socialism. Today India—through the eyes of the first visitors to the exhibit—has seen the mighty Soviet Union as it really is.

Photographs and displays reflect the joy felt in their creative labor by Soviet people struggling for a happy prosperous life, for peace, for the construction of a communist society in the Soviet Union.

Sometimes Indian newspapers have written about the victories of socialist construction in the U.S.S.R. But brief reports cannot convey the power and beauty of the Soviet ZIS-110, which a crowd of admiring visitors is standing in front of. Indians learned with surprise that some days ago Vasily Sorokin, a Soviet driver, traveled in a car of this type from Delhi to Bombay—860 miles of bad road—in 18 hours. A large part of the way he maintained a speed of 140 kilometers an hour.

The visitors to the exhibit stand for a long time before each Soviet machine, observe it in action. They are also interested in the coal combine, the weaving loom and the electric excavator. A group of members of the Bombay Province Government stands in front of the caterpillar tractor. They are excited and, one must assume, they are thinking of the wretched peasant fields in their part of the country where there is not even room to use a pair of oxen.

Women stand before the windows filled with Soviet fabrics like people bewitched. They are intoxicated with the abundance of amazing designs of the most delicate hues.

"Do your women really wear all that?" they insistently ask and, receiving an affirmative reply, say helplessly: "But for scores of years we have been told that the Russians dress only in grey."

The visitors gather in large groups before the metal-processing machines and the windows of the Soviet fur section, abounding in sable, ermine, astrakhan, and then suddenly disperse singly throughout the halls of the pavilion, trying to see everything and miss nothing.

Here an Indian stops before the window filled with innumerable types of grain. He wears a piece of cheap white cloth wound around his hips. He lovingly examines the wheat and realizes that he has never seen such large grain in his life. He is interested in the price of the wheat, wants to get a few handfuls for sowing. Another Indian is interested in the flour. He says: "All India knows that bread from your wheat is far better than bread from American wheat. But for some reason the government buys from the U.S.A. They should buy from you. It would be cheaper and better." ...

The tremendous success of the Soviet Pavilion is eloquently shown by one small touch: before the exhibit had been open an hour some Soviet machines already had "sold" signs on them.

The Chinese Pavilion makes a strong impression. Painted bright red and decorated with golden letters, it reminds one of one of the buildings of the Peking Palace. Everything exhibited in this pavilion has been made in the past two years by the workers and peasants of the Chinese People's Republic. Steam hammers, metal-processing machines, models and photographs of engines, blast furnaces and open-hearth furnaces, mounds of wheat, kaoliang and rice, footwear, inexpensive high-quality fabrics—all these tell the Indians without words that the liberated Chinese people have already performed many tasks in the struggle for their country's economic independence from the capitalist world. ...

Indian firms have a few small pavilions at the exhibit. The majority of these are dummy firms. Indian signs and names mask British, American and other foreign capitalists. They have brought their goods to the Indian Pavilions in order to sell them tax-free. Here one may see both Plymouth cars and an entire Coca-Cola Pavilion.

Among the genuinely Indian products, the ivory products—work done by the people—are good. From the commercial point of view the jute, ropes, shellac and spices are of interest.

The Bombay exhibit clearly shows the Indian population that the Soviet Union and the people's democracies can supply any equipment or machines, any products or wares of the best quality.

Not everyone succeeded in seeing the Soviet Pavilion on the first day. A dense crowd, like a live wreath, surrounded the exhibit right up to its closing. In the evening the people of Bombay could look up at the sky where among the dead, cold lights there is the brightly shining red star of the Soviet pavilion. Indians call it a guiding star, the star of peace and happiness.

Japan

U.S.A. RESTORES JAPANESE AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY. (Izvestia, Jan. 15, p. 4. Complete text:) Sydney (Tass)—The Brisbane Courier Mail publishes a report from Richard Hughes in Tokyo which states that Japan will soon begin to build aircraft for the United States. Seventy-five twin-engined and 25 four-engined planes will be turned out every month. A keen struggle is going on between the former five largest Japanese military aircraft firms for permits to build aircraft, which are being given by the large Douglas Aircraft Co. The representatives of these five leading Japanese companies are visiting the U.S.A. where they will dispute each other's right to conclude a long-term contract. It is supposed that the Mitsubishi Co., now known as the Naka Nihon (Heavy Industry Co.), will receive orders for the aircraft construction. The shares of this company are now 20 times higher on the Tokyo Exchange than they were in November, 1951, when the representatives of the Douglas Aircraft Co. visited Japan.

The most serious competitor of the Naka Nihon Co. is another old Zaibatsu company, the Showa, which was formerly a branch of the Mitsui Trust and which is supposed to have already been allowed to begin constructing Douglas D-C4 and Douglas D-C6 transport planes.

In the opinion of the Japanese authorities the Douglas Aircraft Co. will invest £1,500,000 to £2,000,000 in the Japanese aircraft industry and will send American technicians to Japan.

Korea

SAVAGE ACTS BY U.S. AIR FORCE IN KOREA. (Izvestia, Jan. 9, p. 4. 550 words. Condensed text:) Pyongyang (Tass)—... During the past year the U.S. Air Force carried out about 2000 raids on Pyongyang in which more than 500 aircraft of various types were used. Bombers and fighters dropped a total of about 42,000 land mines and fragmentation and incendiary bombs on the city. The area of Pyongyang is 50 square kilometers without the suburbs. Thus, about 1000 bombs were dropped on every square kilometer of the city. ...

The number of peaceful inhabitants of the city killed and injured is a terrible indictment of the American warmongers. Widows, children, sisters and brothers are now mourning for more than 15,000 women, children and old people who have perished by American bombs and bullets. Thousands of children died in their cradles, ten children's homes, whose wardens were killed, have been destroyed. 7000 inhabitants of Pyongyang were wounded. The American air force raids of July 30 and Aug. 14, 1951, were particularly barbaric and inhuman: the city was bombed by a total of 820 aircraft of which 100 were Flying Fortresses flown from Japanese airfields. Since September, 1951, American night bombers have been indiscriminately dropping land mines and incendiary bombs on the city every night.

Sending its air pirates to Pyongyang, the American command

has been and is pursuing the aim of exterminating the peaceful population; it is also trying to break the courage of the Korean people and to bring them to their knees under the boot of the American soldier. However, the aggressors have miscalculated and no amount of barbaric evil deeds will help them bring the Korean people to their knees.

REPORT BY HSINHUA CORRESPONDENT. (Pravda and Izvestia, Jan. 10, p. 4. 250 words. Condensed text:) Peking (Tass)—Jen Min Jih Pao published a Hsinhua correspondent's report on Jan. 9 which states that on Dec. 8, 1951, an anti-aircraft battery of the Chinese volunteer units shot down an American B-26 bomber somewhere in North Korea. Five two-sided maps were found on Harold A. Steiner (Service No. A-0758878), a flyer who escaped by parachute and was captured. On two of the maps Peking was depicted on one side and Port Arthur on the other; on the third map Jehol Province was on one side and Mukden on the other; on the fourth map Vladivostok was on one side and Kaesong on the other; on the fifth Magasaki was on one side and Kagoshima on the other. ...

The report concludes that the American bomber's flight over North Korea with maps of the Chinese People's Republic provides positive proof of the American imperialists' intention to extend the aggressive war in Korea.

IN SOUTH KOREA. (By Staff Correspondent A. Tkachenko. Pravda, Jan. 15, p. 3. 2000 words. Condensed text:) Pyongyang — ... Refugees from the south have recounted what calamities the inhabitants of South Kunsan Province are experiencing. The peasant woman Kim Pu In enumerated the taxes to which her family was subject. She took six tax receipts and notices out of her pocket. The first receipt stated that Kim Pu In had to turn over eight sacks of rice to Syngman Rhee troops by Dec. 1, 1951. The second notice ordered three sacks of rice to be delivered to the supply center in Sagon "for the nation's defense needs." According to the third, two sacks of rice had to be brought for the use of water "from the state" irrigation canals. Then came notices that "Mrs. Kim Pu In had to bring to the nearest branch of the state bank 12,000 won due to the state as a single compulsory finance tax;" that her "arrears" on her income tax amounted to 2000 won. Finally, the last notice reminded her that she must pay off arrears of 1000 won on the "cultural tax."

In addition to these "state taxes," the family had to pay the landlord rent amounting to not less than one-third of the harvest, to pay money for the use of roads and bridges on the landlord's property, subscribe to the war loan, etc. ...

The workers of South Korea are being subjected to ruthless exploitation. At the beginning of the war the Syngman Rhee government adopted a "wartime labor law," according to which a 12-hour working day was introduced. In reality the workers toil for 14 hours a day, not taking into account work on the construction of military projects. The worker has to support his family on a meager ration which he receives from the management of the enterprise. ...

The boastful statements in the American press that the American monopolies made $22,400,000,000 pure profit out of the Korean war in 1950 alone—that is, more than twice as much as in the most "profitable" year of the second world war—resound in an especially loathsome manner against the background of the unprecedented disasters of the South Korean population. ...

EASTERN EUROPE

Albania

DECREE ON CONSTRUCTION OF HYDROELECTRIC STATION IN ALBANIA. (Izvestia, Jan. 10, p. 1. Complete text:) Tirana (Tass)—The papers have published the decree adopted Jan. 7, 1952, by the Albanian People's Republic Council of Ministers and the Politburo of the Albanian Workers' Party Central Committee on the construction of a hydroelectric station on the Matia River.

The decree stipulates the construction and opening of a hydroelectric station by 1955 on the Matia River, 80 kilometers north of Tirana, with a capacity of 20,000 kilowatts and with an annual electric power output of 100,000,000 kilowatt hours. It is planned to construct a high tension line about 150 kilometers long, passing through Ulza, Tirana, Elbasan, Cerrik and the city of Stalin, and to include in this system the hydroelectric station on the Matia River, the Lenin Hydroelectric Station, the Stalin Textile Combine Thermoelectric Power Station, and the thermoelectric power station of a projected oil refinery.

This system will provide electric power for all the basic industrial centers of northern and central Albania.

ALBANIAN PEOPLE'S NATIONAL HOLIDAY. (By Mehmet Shehu, Secretary of Albanian Workers' Party Central Committee. Pravda, Jan. 11, p. 2. 1900 words. Condensed text:) ... Six years have passed since the proclamation of the People's Republic of Albania, and what striking changes have taken place in the appearance of the country and in the life of our people... Revolutionary reforms have been successfully carried out. Factories, plants, mines and banks have been nationalized; the land has passed into the hands of the working peasants. More than 70,000 landless peasant households and households with little land (about one-half of all peasant families) have received land, livestock and implements which formerly belonged to feudal lords and landowners.

The area under cultivation in 1951 exceeded that of 1938 by one and one-half. Albania now has 19 times more tractors, four times more threshing machines, and three times more seeders than in 1938. Animal husbandry reached 135% in comparison with 1938. Agricultural cooperatives and state farms are being consolidated.

The economy and means of communication destroyed by the war and the occupation have been restored and new roads and railroads, new factories, plants and combines have been built. Our industry is steadily developing. In comparison with the prewar level, oil output has increased by 135.3%, ore output has increased four times, the production of the food industry has reached 313.4%, and the gross industrial output has reached 438%. In comparison with 1938, Albania is now extracting more than twice as much bitumen, more than 11 times as much coal and more than eight times as much chromium. The Stalin Textile Combine and the Lenin Hydroelecrtic Station, which gives light and water to our capital, were put into operation at the end of October and the beginning of November, 1951. Scores of new industrial projects are being built. It is now planned to build a powerful new hydroelectric station on the Matia River. It will furnish 100,000,000 kilowatt hours of electric power a year.

The uninterrupted growth of our young working class is an index of the industrial development of the country. At present there are almost 50 times more workers than there were in 1938. ...

The Albanian Workers' Party and the government are showing special concern for the development of public education and culture. The number of elementary schools has increased more than three times in comparison with the prewar total. Three theaters, a philharmonic society and a wide network of clubs have been formed in the country. The education and training of its people's intelligentsia, the formation of its own cadres of administrators and technicians are very great achievements of our party. In the past year three institutes were opened: agricultural, pedagogical and polytechnical. Hundreds of students are studying in the higher educational institutions of the Soviet Union and the people's democracies. Great work is being done in liquidating illiteracy. ...

As a result of the betrayal of the Tito clique, the People's Republic of Albania has found itself in a hostile encirclement. The armed provocations which the Tito clique and the monarcho-fascist authorities of Greece have committed on the Albanian borders on orders of the transoceanic warmongers, and the sending of spies and saboteurs by sea, air and land, have not ceased for one day. In the last months alone our country's pursuit squads have destroyed 13 American saboteurs who have been parachuted in, seven British, 14 Greek and 33 Yugoslav saboteurs. From Jan. 1 to Oct. 31, 1951, the integrity of Albanian territory was violated 388 times. ...

The Albanian people are building the foundations of socialism in their country with great enthusiasm. They value peace as they value their lives and are ready to defend it, to defend their achievements and the interests of the motherland by all possible means. The devotion of the Albanian people to their leader and inspirer, the Workers' Party, and their limitless love for the

Soviet Union, for the saviour and greatest friend of the Albanian people, Comrade Stalin, are a source of the Albanian people's courage and resoluteness. ...

NEAR EAST

Egypt

POPULATION OF PORT SAID WARMLY WELCOMES SEAMEN OF SOVIET FISHING TRAWLERS. (Pravda and Izvestia, Jan. 9 p. 4. 100 words. Summary:) Cairo (Tass)—On Jan. 8 the Egyptian papers reported the arrival of Soviet fishing trawlers in Port Said on the way to Vladivostok and the warm reception the people of the city gave the Soviet seamen.

EGYPTIAN PEOPLE WELCOME SOVIET SEAMEN. (Pravda, Jan. 13, p. 3. Complete text:) Cairo (Tass)—Al Misri and Al Ahram reported Jan. 12 the stirring welcome the people of Suez arranged for the seamen of the Soviet fishing trawlers which arrived in Suez on Jan. 11. More than 10,000 inhabitants of the city gathered at the outer port of Suez to welcome the Soviet seamen. Many remained at the docks until the trawlers left to continue their voyage.

CENTRAL EUROPE

Germany

On International Themes: FOR ALL-GERMAN ELECTIONS. (Izvestia, Jan. 12, p. 4. 350 words. Condensed text:) On Jan. 9 the German Democratic Republic People's Chamber discussed the draft election law on holding all-German elections which was drawn up by a German Democratic Republic government commission. The People's Chamber unanimously approved the draft election law on holding all-German elections to a national assembly which, as the Chamber's resolution states, "is the German Democratic Republic's contribution to the cause of preparing an election law for all Germany." ...

The decision of the German Democratic Republic People's Chamber is a new contribution to the cause of the German people's struggle for the unity of the country and for its peaceful development. This truly democratic decision shows the maturity of the democratic forces of the German people who are in a position to make their own decision on the holding of all-German elections and to ensure all the necessary guarantees that these elections will be general and free. ...

WESTERN EUROPE

France

On International Themes: GOVERNMENT CRISIS IN FRANCE. (By Staff Correspondent M. Mikhailov. Izvestia, Jan. 12, p. 4. 650 words. Condensed text:) Pleven's government recently fell. This government, the tenth, of postwar France lasted for less than five months. During this short period, it succeeded in compromising itself so much in the eyes of the French people, that even some Deputies of the reactionary parties, which constitute the present government camp of France, were compelled to cast their votes against the government and to contribute to its collapse. This again confirms the fact that the reasons for the governmental crisis in France lie not only in the immediate events which led to the resignation of Pleven's Cabinet, but embrace a much broader problem . It is a question of a crisis in the policy Pleven pursued, as did many of his predecessors, a policy which those who replace Pleven's Cabinet will very likely try to pursue. ...

Having compelled Pleven's government to resign, the French people thereby voiced their protest against the country's continued subordination to American imperialism, against the notorious Pleven and Schuman Plans which put the French economy at the mercy of the American and Ruhr magnates who are depriving France of the means for defending its national security at the very time German revanchism is rearing its head in West Germany.

It is characteristic that the foreign policy aspect of the crisis should be primarily emphasized in the extensive repercussions the French government crisis called forth outside France. Thus, the Italian government press is extremely disturbed by the fact that the fall of Pleven's Cabinet was brought about by the masses' dissatisfaction with the obligations connected with his foreign policy. The Turin Gazzetta del Popolo notes that the French government crisis will entail the postponement of the conference of six ministers (on the question of the formation of a "European army") and the session of the North Atlantic Council in Lisbon and will, consequently, create additional obstacles in realizing the American aggressors' plans in Europe. The West Berlin Der Tag points out that the fall of Pleven's government "has increased the instability which is felt even beyond the limits of France."

It is not surprising that the French government crisis called forth particular dissatisfaction in the U.S.A. Thus, for example, with undisguised anger The New York Times complains about the French bourgeois parties who "permitted" this crisis.

U.S. ruling circles are clearly disturbed by the international repercussions caused by the fall of the "American party's" government in France, which testifies to the profound internal contradictions in one of the Atlantic bloc countries, to the growth of the people's opposition to the war policy.

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

United States

International Review: ARMS RACE AND POLICY OF AGGRESSION. (By M. Marinin. Pravda, Jan. 14, p. 4. Complete text:) On Jan. 9 Truman delivered the President's traditional State of the Union Message to the U.S. Congress. The tone and character of the entire document are determined by the fact that the elections of the President, a new House of Representatives and one-third of the Senate will take place in November, 1952. There is an excess of boasting and self-advertising in the message. All the same, concern for the consequences of American policy in Europe, in the Far East and the Near East, which, as Truman emphasizes, "is in a turmoil," seeps through the affected optimism of the message.

"Day in and day out we see a long procession of timid and fearful people who wring their hands and cry out that we have lost the way—that we don't know what we are doing—that we are bound to fail,"—thus Truman characterizes the opposition to his adventurous policy which is growing even among the ruling circles.

For perfectly obvious reasons Truman prefers not to mention the delicate subject of the attitude toward this policy of the broad strata of the American people and of millions of people outside the U.S.A. And actually what could he really say on this subject? Admit the evident crisis in his policy? Record the fact that anti-American sentiment is growing throughout the world? Reveal the aggravation of antagonisms and internal struggle behind the scenes of the Atlantic alliance?

Striving to divert the attention of American public opinion at least partially from these deplorable results of his policy, Truman decided to use the meeting with Churchill as a salient demonstration of American-British "unity." But these calculations did not turn out right since, as the American press admits, the President's talks with the British Prime Minister did not lessen the contradictions between the "senior and junior" partners.

It is not the first time that Truman has tried to depict himself as a peacemaker. But the whole content of his message exposes the demagogic nature of these attempts. The appeals for a further arms race speak for themselves. And it is just these appeals which form the main content of the program of measures the President proposed for the immediate future.

What kind of answer does the message give to the "long procession of men" who condemn the American government's policy? It is possible to describe this answer in one word: intimidation. Truman is resorting to tactics of confusing people, which are intended to terrorize people, to close their mouths. "The way will be dangerous for the years ahead," Truman states. "All of us—Republicans and Democrats alike—are all going to sink or swim together." The President's message is filled with these and similar statements. The tactics of intimidation are evidently aimed at creating a definite

atmosphere for the further intensification of the policy of aggression in Asia, Europe and the Near East.

Truman again confirms the fact that a rapid and successful completion of the negotiations for a peaceful settlement of the Korean question does not enter into the intentions of the U.S. government. He promises to continue the war against the Korean people until truce terms suitable to the U.S.A. are imposed on the Korean people. But who does not know that during the six months of negotiations in Korea the U.S. representatives have continually made demands which make it impossible to bring the negotiations to a successful end. And if Truman declares today that "the situation in Korea remains very hazardous," that the "outcome of the negotiations still remains uncertain," it means only one thing: the U.S. government does not wish to make the outcome of the negotiations certain, rapid and positive.

To Western Europe Truman promises first of all a greater burden of militarism. The message acknowledges that the conversion of the Marshallized countries' economies to war production has "created severe economic problems" in those countries and has increased inflation, "endangering the recovery of their strength." This is the diagnosis. And what is the method of "treatment?" The treatment is to supply Western Europe with weapons on a scale far exceeding previous rates. Of course Truman's "generosity" suits the American arms manufacturers perfectly, not only because it promises them new, record-breaking profits, but also because it leads to an increased disorganization of West European economy, to a greater dependence on the U.S.A.

In the field of domestic policy the message outlines a further increase in the armed forces, which at present already number 3,500,000 persons, and the conversion of the entire U.S. economy to a war footing. Moreover it is acknowledged that the arms race will be carried out "for a longer period of time" than previously planned.

The message foreshadows a new attack on the standard of living of the masses of people, a policy of high taxes and a stricter policy of freezing wages. Truman openly states the inevitability of a considerable curtailment of civilian production.

Thus, in spite of the increased difficulties resulting from the arms race, the American ruling circles are intensifying the one-sided, war-inflationary character of the U.S. economy. "We can control inflation if we make up our minds to do so," Truman boasts. But in recent years there has not been one Presidential message which has not promised to end inflation. And the results? From month to month inflation is growing, prices and taxes are increasing, the standard of living of the masses of people is falling.

The arms race and an intensification of the policy of aggression comprise the policy presented in Truman's message for the future. But if this course has already led American policy to a profound crisis in recent years, it is perfectly obvious that a further intensification of the aggressive policy will lead the U.S.A. to new and still more serious failures and defeats.

BLACK DEEDS OF WHITE RACISTS. (By Georgy Gulia. Literaturnaya gazeta, Jan. 12, p. 4. 2600 words. Condensed text:) ... The sufferings which the Negro people endure every day and hour in America are widely known. Even the American press is obliged to write about this, although it tries to present the victim as the criminal in cases of discrimination. Nevertheless, it is impossible to conceal everything and the facts become known to the public.

However, matters are completely different when it is a question of information intended for export. In this case even well-known facts are wiped from the page and give way to unctuous proclamations about the well-being of the Negro people. This is what happens, for example in the magazine Amerika, which prints various fairy tales and fables as the true picture of American life.

No. 50 of this magazine contains a long article on Negroes. The magazine Amerika indulges in a very simple trick: it declares that the Negro problem in America is "largely a purely psychological one." The magazine has to do this in order to justify the racist theory. It is written in black and white there: "This theory, very profitable economically, also served as a means of weakening the profound moral conflict which slavery raised in the minds of its supporters."

So, if the magazine is to be believed, the American racists of today commit murders in order to "weaken the profound moral conflict" in their dark minds! The proverb says that the crocodile sheds tears before devouring its victim. However, the weeping crocodile is no less voracious for its tears. The magazine Amerika is leaning over backwards in its efforts to exculpate these murderers. Therefore the racist theory is pronounced "very profitable economically." Therefore the magazine is trying to find "conflicts" in the vile minds of murderers in order to ennoble them.

For several pages the author of this article in Amerika tries to prove that all the same the U.S.A. is a paradise for Negroes. Of course, not a single instance of the murder of innocent Negroes is described here, although there are many such cases and there is no need to search for them. Instead of this, he babbles about the purely "psychological side" of the Negro question in America.

And is the death of hundreds and thousands of Negroes at the hands of the racists also a purely psychological problem?!

And the humiliating racial discrimination which is the general practice in the United States—is this also a purely psychological problem?!

The position of the Negroes in America is so lamentable that it is impossible to justify the orgy of racism there in the eyes of the honest American. But the magazine Amerika is intended for export, not domestic consumption. Hence its clumsy attempts to prove the unprovable. Amerika is moved by the increase in the number of Negroes employed. In the magazine's opinion this is "an important step toward achieving economic equality." But surely even a child can see through this! The disenfranchised, persecuted Negroes in America are cheap labor power ("profitable economically") who can be cruelly exploited. The fact is that all the dirty, poorly paid work is given to Negroes. The fact is that Negro workers are still in the position of slaves. And even the magazine Amerika is forced to mumble that "the average earnings of a Negro are considerably lower than the average earnings of a white person." ...

The Amerika magazine, intended for export, observes that the "role of Othello created by Paul Robeson" was a contribution to the art of the stage. But did this magazine say a single word about the infamous persecution to which this outstanding artist and prominent fighter for peace in America is subjected? No, it did not say anything, for that would have been disadvantageous to those responsible for the unbearable conditions under which Paul Robeson is placed.

The magazine unblushingly calls the outstanding Negro professor William Du Bois, "a patriarch of the movement for equality." But the magazine does not say a single word about the fact that Du Bois is persecuted for his views in "free America;" that the judicial authorities in the U.S.A. have organized an infamous trial of Dr. Du Bois, who is the Chairman of the Peace Information Center; and that this trial was a scandalous failure, despite reaction's efforts to imprison the Negro professor; nor that under the influence of unanimous protest from the world public, who came to the aid of the aged scientist, even the American Medinas thought it advisable not to pass sentence on him. The magazine is prudently silent about all this.

Surely the editors of Amerika do not think that Soviet readers will be unable to see through the casuistry which is served up to them?

Desirous of exculpating the American bourgeois press at any cost, the magazine states: "The attempts of certain foreign writers to depict the American press as spouting forth racist doctrines are absurd."

I do not know whether the editors of Amerika read a small fascist magazine entitled White Circle News, published in Chicago. The first issue of this concoction stated clearly: "We shall struggle to preserve our locality and social institutions, and we shall keep them white; if necessary we shall die in order for them to remain white." This is written by young men from Cicero who have been handing out a leaflet stating: "Our program is to unite the whole population of Cicero into a powerful, independent union of white people to defend our community from the predominance of the Negroes."

Let us see how one of the Hearst press columnists, Westbrook

Pegler, glorifies racial hatred, and what he vomits forth. As if lecturing to Amerika magazine, he writes: "The preaching and spreading of racial hatred are not un-American actions."

Finally, can Amerika magazine believe such a 100% American as James Byrnes? Byrnes, as is known, has been Secretary of State under the Truman administration and is now Governor of South Carolina. This is what he says: "Whatever happens we must stick to segregation" (i. e., racial discrimination—G.G.).

Amerika states; "Present arrangements do not compel the recognition of equality." This is the baby talk or rather the sham baby talk of adult defenders of racism! Would it not be simpler to say that all the actions of the official and unofficial racists in America are aimed at suppressing any and all desire for equality, are aimed at Negro discrimination, at whipping up hatred against the Negroes and physical annihilation of them.

But Amerika magazine would never say that, because its purpose is to export lies, to deceive public opinion outside America. It tries to conceal the truth about the plight of the Negroes, forgetting that the American press itself, designed for the home market, undermines these efforts. In spite of the tall tales spread by Amerika magazine, everyone in the world knows the truth about the Negroes in America. ...

In present-day America millions of Negroes and their white brothers are fighting for freedom and justice on earth. They know that the day will come when history will bury the black deeds of the white racists forever.

World Economy

ARTIFICIAL BARRIERS.—Before the International Economic Conference. (Literaturnaya gazeta, Jan. 12, p. 4. 1000 words. Condensed text:) A congress of editors of all French newspapers met last autumn in Biarritz. The subject of discussion at the congress was the difficult situation in which the French press and French publishers found themselves. The cost of paper received from the U.S.A. is continually rising; consequently, the prices of French newspapers have increased sharply and, what is more, a number of newspapers are faced with a real threat of extinction. These are the factors which forced the editors at the congress to demand that the government resume trade relations with the Soviet Union and "permit the import of paper into France from all countries of the world, including states which are not members of the dollar bloc."

Thus, the meaning of the editors' demand comes down to this: give us paper for our publications at a price it is actually worth and not at an inflated price dictated by the American monopolies; expand trade ties between France and other countries for this purpose. Newspapers of the most diverse tendencies are devoting more and more attention to the problem of resuming normal world trade.

As in the case of the press of many other countries, the French newspapers are commenting with interest on the forthcoming International Economic Conference to be held in Moscow in April.

The French newspaper Action published an article in No. 367 entitled "The Barriers Are Falling" which gives the cessation of trade between East and West as one of the causes for the present decline in the economy of European countries. The article states that, while such a situation may suit the American monopolists perfectly, it is provoking a growing feeling of alarm and anxiety among the European peoples.

Exactly for this reason, the newspaper continues, "Great Britain's Ministers have stated that the continuation and, what is more, the expansion of trade with the East are vitally necessary to Britain. Indications of a similar evolution in a number of other countries can be noted: for example, in Italy and Belgium, and also in France, where one of the members of the government recently expressed the hope for an improvement in mutual relations with the East." The paper goes on to state: "Many European industrialists, including French industrialists, have already declared their intention of resuming trade relations with the East and with China. Representatives of French industrial and trade circles, whose existence is threatened by the results of the Atlantic policy, are appealing for trade with the East as a means of helping them escape strangulation." ...

The West German press is devoting a great deal of space to the problem of resuming trade relations with the East. The newspaper Rheinischer Merkur, an organ of the Christian Democratic Union, protests against the extreme measures to which the U.S.A. is resorting in restricting trade between Western Germany and the German Democratic Republic and expresses itself in favor of a more active exchange with the East European countries. Hamburg employers who have united in the Society for Trade with the East have resolutely demanded that the Bonn government remove the obstacles which prevent their trading with the East.

MUSIC (Continued From Page 17) FEATURE

Unprincipled criticism and the praising of weak, immature works still occur. Faulty books preaching bourgeois nationalism also appear, such as those by the Kazakh "musicologist" Zhubanov. ...

Much creative experience has already been accumulated in the work of composers from all the Soviet republics, which will permit the organization of serious and exhaustive discussion of the mutual interaction of socialist content and national form and of problems of folk content in music. There is not a single musical genre in which problems of folk content are not acute. Opera, symphony, song and chamber music writing in many ways fall short of their proper scope because our composers pay little serious attention to problems of folk content. Our scholarly and creative thought, our musical esthetics, is retarded in many ways because cardinal problems of the folk content in music are not elaborated.

The great cause of building an advanced Soviet culture requires great creative efforts by composers and musicologists and the extensive development of criticism and self-criticism. The wise principles of the Bolshevist party and Comrade Stalin inspire Soviet composers to overcome all difficulties, to create music worthy of the Soviet people.

Communist Party

GLORIOUS PAGE IN REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLE. (Pravda, Jan. 13, p. 1. 550 words. Condensed text:) Batumi (Tass) —The working people of the city are marking the 50th anniversary of the historic conference of Social Democratic circles held under the leadership of J. V. Stalin.

Late in 1901 Comrade Stalin arrived in Batum on instructions from the Tiflis committee of the Russian Social Democratic Labor Party and stayed in the home of a worker. This home is now a museum and contains numerous documents, photographs and pictures describing Stalin's active revolutionary work in Batum. ...

On Comrade Stalin's initiative and under his guidance a conference of representatives of the Social Democratic circles of the city's chief enterprises was held Dec. 31, 1901 (Jan. 13, 1902, by the new calendar), under the guise of a New Year gathering in the home of the worker Silvester Lomdzhary. In commemoration of this historic date an 11-meter obelisk now stands where Lomdzhary's house was. ...

The high point in the history of the revolutionary movement in the Transcaucasus in that period was the famous March 9, 1902, political strike of the Batum workers, organized by Comrade J. V. Stalin and staged by about 6000 persons. The Batum demonstration roused the worker and peasant masses of the Transcaucasus.

Half a century separates us from those historic days when Comrade J. V. Stalin stirred up the workers of Batum to fight against autocracy and capitalism. The sun of freedom of which the great leader spoke with brilliant foresight at the conference of representatives of the Social Democratic circles on New Year's Eve, 1901, is now shining brightly over our country. ...

IMPROPER ATTITUDE TOWARD CRITICISM. (By Special Correspondents V. Kuprin and A. Ivakhnenko. Pravda, Jan. 13, p. 2. Complete text:) Bryansk—Party Member Comrade Volokhova was summoned urgently to the borough Party committee. She is often present at meetings of the Fokino Borough Party Committee, both as an unofficial instructor and in her capacity as correspondent of the newspaper Magistral [Main Line], organ of the management, the political section and the trade union council of the Moscow-Kiev Railroad. Therefore the summons did not surprise her.

When she entered the room where the bureau was holding its meeting, Comrade Polyakov, first secretary of the borough committee, announced:

"Today we must discuss the conduct of the correspondent Comrade Volokhova."

On Dec. 25, 1951, a sharply critical story by Comrade Volokhova, entitled "Again About Vulgar Simplification," was published in Magistral. It described how technical rules were flagrantly violated at the largest junction on the railroad and cited numerous instances of slackening in the standard of shunting work. The correspondent criticized the political department of the Bryansk division of the railroad and the officials of the Fokino Borough Party Committee for their acquiescence in the shortcomings.

This was the third time that the newspaper had brought up this matter, since the borough committee and the political department had taken no notice of the first two stories.

"And so, Comrades," said Comrade Polyakov, "let us consider the case of the correspondent Volokhova and her anti-Party conduct."

In discussing the "personal case" of Volokhova the members of the bureau admitted that her story had correctly described the state of affairs and that her article did not contain a single inaccuracy. Wherein, then, did the correspondent's guilt lie?

The bureau of the borough committee accused Comrade Volokhova of using in her article some of the information reported to it by the line and section inspectors of the railroad.

"It was all correct," said Comrade Polyakov, turning to the correspondent, "but why did you dare use our material? We were preparing it for a report to be given at a meeting of the Party aktiv. What do you suggest I say at the meeting now?"

Comrade Volokhova carefully tried to explain that she had not obtained her information at the borough committee but at ordinary dispatchers' meetings, at which the inspectors had made speeches. But her protests only made matters worse and brought on new accusations. Comrade Volokhova, they said, "had become estranged from Party agencies," "was evading Party assignments," and so forth.

"She wrote her article for money," said Comrade Chirkov, second secretary of the borough committee.

"The case is clear," said Comrade Polyakov, summing up. "Since Volokhova will not admit her mistakes, I move that she be reprimanded and that the reprimand be entered in her service record."

"Wouldn't that be too severe?" asked Comrade Kortelev, director of the political department of the railroad division and member of the bureau of the Bryansk City Party Committee, who was present at the meeting. "Perhaps, since this is a first offense, a warning would do? What do you think, Comrade Volokhova?"

"In my opinion neither one would be correct," was the answer.

"Oh, is that so?" exclaimed Comrade Kortelev in a rage. "In that case I withdraw my motion."

The bureau then approved the motion of the first secretary.

The bureau's resolution cannot but arouse surprise. Everyone knows that Comrade Volokhova conscientiously carries out Party assignments, takes an active part in political work and maintains close contact with local Party agencies.

Apparently the bureau of the borough Party committee does not find principled, honest criticism to its taste.

On Party Themes: CONCERNING CONCRETE AND PURPOSEFUL AGITATION WORK. (By P. Cheplakov, Secretary of the Sakhalin Province Party Committee. Pravda, Jan. 14, p. 2. 1900 words. Summary:) After the liberation of Southern Sakhalin and the Kurile Islands from the Japanese plunderers, the Soviet people liquidated the remnants of the rapacious imperialists, completely reorganized the technically backward fishing, lumber and coal industries and established new, socialist enterprises with first-class technical equipment. The rapid rate of socialist development here demands the maximum creative activity of the Soviet people living in this area. Therefore the Party organizations of Sakhalin Province consider it their primary duty to mobilize the workers to achieve new production successes, to fulfill and overfulfill the state plans. Bolshevist agitation is an important means toward the ideological and political education of the people and strengthening contact between Party organizations and the masses. The Party organizations must see that every group of agitators in the coal, oil, fishing, lumber, paper, local and food industries and in sea and rail transportation understands its industry and directs socialist competition well.

In the fishing industry, for instance, which has the largest number of workers, the Party organizations direct all their efforts to carrying out the tasks which face the fishing industry. There is a nucleus of outstanding fishermen from the Caspian, Azov and Black Seas who brought with them skill in sea fishing which was perfected here. The Party organizations support the initiative of innovators and propagandize their experience. The province Party committee held a province conference of agitators in the fishing industry in order to generalize the experience of political agitation among the fishermen. The conference helped us to remedy shortcomings in agitation work and to outline practical measures to improve it. There are now about 2000 agitators working among the fishermen in the province, and hundreds of wall newspapers are published. As a result the catch of fish has increased and the quality of the products has improved.

Basic transformations of the organization of mining are taking place in our mines. Nevertheless several Party organizations ignore the latest developments in the mining industry. Dolinsk, Lesogorsk and several other city and district Party committees permit elements of formalism in their guidance of the political work at the mines. Measures were taken to improve this guidance. The important Mgachi mine, for instance, was the first in the province to receive a Donets Basin mining combine, but the miners encountered difficulties in

trying to use this combine. Some of the most conservative ones even declared that the combine could not be used in the Sakhalin mines. But the Party organization sent Communists to the place where the combine was being used and they managed to master the technique of using it. Now these combines are operating in many mines.

Many oil extraction sections are being transferred to cost accounting in the Sakhalin oil industry. This has increased the importance of oil extraction brigades, which are thus obliged to adhere to a model technological system in working wells and consequently save state funds. The Party organizations are intensifying the struggle against waste and lack of discipline.

Much diversified mass political work is carried on among the workers of the lumber and paper industry, the collective farmers, the railwaymen and the sailors in order to help them carry out their tasks successfully. This can be seen from the pre-schedule fulfillment and overfulfillment of the 1951 plans by many enterprises, combines and trusts in Sakhalin. The quality of production has been improved and the cost has been lowered. The problem of supplying the workers in the province with potatoes and vegetables has been solved.

Of course it would be wrong in agitation work to interpret all these practical questions only from a narrow production viewpoint, without any connection with general political tasks. Such a limited outlook inevitably lowers the level of the agitation work. It is the duty of all agitators to help every worker understand the importance of his work to the state and his part in building communism.

The sailors of the Sakhalin Shipping Line, for instance, fulfilled the 1951 plan for cargo shipment ahead of schedule. Many crews went on cost accounting, completed their voyages on schedule and saved millions of rubles of state funds. This mass patriotic movement was largely due to the high ideological level of political agitation achieved by the Party organizations. Daily propaganda of advanced work methods was combined with lectures, discussion and political information about the glorious traditions of Soviet sailors, the Stalinist plan for the transformation of nature, the great construction projects of communism and the domestic and foreign policies of the U.S.S.R.

We would like to see more politically trained and experienced people taking part in agitation work, but unfortunately we do not always succeed in achieving this. Some city committee secretaries and department heads do not instruct the agitators personally or give political reports at enterprises.

The province Party committee is directing the attention of Party organizations to the selection and training of cadres of agitators. It has also begun to pay more attention to the way in which the local press and radio explain mass agitation work and what help they give the agitators. Our local newspapers are still quite poor in handling agitation.

We still have not remedied some serious shortcomings in mass political work. It is often not connected with the tasks facing the province's economy. Not all Party organizations and their agitation groups struggle purposefully to improve the economic indices of production. In many places political agitation is carried on like a temporary campaign. Agitation in the workers' living quarters is still weak. Some Party organizations do not instruct the agitators or help them to study. The province committee is taking measures to intensify mass political work among the workers.

Party Life: IMPROVE GUIDANCE OF INDEPENDENT POLITICAL STUDIES. (By Special Correspondent V. Verkhovsky and F. Seleznev. Pravda, Jan. 10, p. 2. 1000 words. Summary:) The Party organizations of Vladimir Province have done much work in preparing for the new study year in the Party education system. A wide network of study circles, schools and seminars has been set up. The staff of propagandists has been improved. More higher study circles on Party history, dialectical and historical materialism and political economy have been formed. A province Party committee plenary session, held before the beginning of the study year, noted successes in organizing Party education and pointed out the underestimation of the independent education of Communists as the main method of Marxist studies. Many Party organizations have tried to enroll as many Communists as possible in different study circles and thereby in essence retarded their theoretical growth. On the other hand, some of the Communists who are studying Marxism-Leninism independently have done no work at all to raise their ideological level.

The Party organization of the Vladimir Tractor Plant had 240 people studying Marxism-Leninism independently at the beginning of the study year, which is not much considering that more than 1000 engineers and technicians work at the plant. There are serious shortcomings in recruitment into the Party education network. Some of the Communists who have been trained to study independently enroll in study circles. At the same time there are some comrades among those studying Marxist-Leninist theory independently who do not have sufficient preparation. In two months the number of people studying independently has been reduced by more than 50. The Communists studying theory independently are not given sufficient assistance. No lectures or consultations are organized for them. Twenty-six consultants were assigned to help them, but neither the Party committee nor the Party study center of the plant has any knowledge of their work. There are no consultants' seminars at the factory or the district Party committee. The studies of Communists at the plant continue to be run bureaucratically. The plant Party study center even printed a single list of works to be studied by everyone, however advanced. The Party study center does not study and generalize the experience of propaganda work and does not heed the demands of the Communists studying independently.

The picture is similar in many other Party organizations of the province. The underestimation of the independent political education of cadres can be seen in the fact that the number of people studying independently in Petushki, Pokrov, Kurlovsky, Gorokhovets and several other districts has considerably decreased in comparison with last year. Some Party organizations entrust too many students to one consultant, sometimes as many as 15. Such tested forms of profound independent study of Marxism-Leninism as writing and discussing papers and reports are hardly used at all in the Party organizations of the province.

Many Party organizations of the province did not draw the proper conclusions from last year's shortcomings in the Party education system and did not organize the independent political education of the cadres properly. One of the reasons for this state of affairs is that many Party directors have lost the taste for theoretical studies themselves and do not set examples for the rank-and-file Communists. Many district, city and province Party committee officials study Marxism-Leninism very poorly.

The province committee's propaganda and agitation department keeps aloof from daily guidance of independent studies. Its officials judge the local state of affairs from reports rather than from personal observation. These serious shortcomings in the organization of the independent political education of cadres in the province unfortunately do not worry the bureau of the Vladimir Province Party Committee.

PLENARY SESSION OF BRYANSK PROVINCE PARTY COMMITTEE. (Pravda, Jan. 12, p. 2. Complete text:) Bryansk—A plenary session of the Bryansk Province Party Committee discussed the report of its secretary, Comrade Zharinov, on the growth of the Party ranks and the education of young Communists. The speeches of the participants in the session pointed out that recently the Party organizations of the province have improved the control over acceptance into the Party and the education of young Communists. At the same time the session noted that many city and district Party committees permitted mistakes in admission to the Party, did not sufficiently study the candidates and in many cases lowered the requirements for admission. The Party organizations admit few leading workers in industry and agriculture into the Party.

The participants in the session disclosed serious shortcomings in the education of young Communists. This can be seen from the fact that 62% of the candidates for Party membership in the Party organizations of the province have been candidates longer than the established time limit. The Party organizations show very little interest in the ideological growth of young Communists.

The plenary session also discussed province Party committee secretary Comrade Bondarenko's report on the results of the agricultural year and the tasks of the province Party organization in preparing for 1952 spring sowing.

Appropriate resolutions were passed on the questions under discussion at the session.

PLENARY SESSION OF CHELYABINSK PROVINCE PARTY COMMITTEE. (Pravda, Jan. 14, p. 2. 200 words. Summary:) Chelyabinsk—The recent province Party committee plenary session discussed the report of province Party committee secretary Comrade Aristov on the supervision of admission into the Party and education of young Communists. The speaker and those taking part in the discussion criticized shortcomings in this matter, pointing out in particular that several Party organizations did not devote sufficient attention to admitting production and agricultural innovators into the Party. The principle of individual selection for the Party ranks is violated in some Party organizations, and the statements of the candidates applying for Party membership are often reviewed too hastily. The necessity of educating young Communists, of drawing them into active Party life and of getting them to study Marxist-Leninist theory was emphasized. The plenary session also discussed the report of province Party committee secretary Comrade Laptev on Party guidance of socialist competition in industry and agriculture.

(Obituary)—D. M. POPOV. (Pravda and Izvestia, Jan. 9, p. 4. 450 words. Summary:) Dmitry Mikhailovich Popov, Assistant Director of the Party Central Committee's Propaganda and Agitation Department, died Jan. 7, 1952, after a prolonged and severe illness. He was born into a poor peasant family in Voronezh Province in 1900. In 1921 he entered the ranks of the Communist Party and from that time until his death he selflessly devoted all his efforts to the cause of the party of Lenin and Stalin. Between 1919 and 1922 D. M. Popov was in the Red Army, after which he did Party and Soviet work in Voronezh Province. From 1927 to 1930 he studied in Leningrad at the J. V. Stalin Communist Higher Educational Institution, after which he worked as a member of a Party Central Committee propaganda group in Ostrogozhsk, Voronezh Province, and then as department head and teacher in the V. I. Lenin Communist Higher Educational Institution in Sverdlovsk. From 1933 to 1936 he attended the Agrarian Institute of Red Professorship. From 1936 to 1939 he taught political economy in a higher school for propagandists under the Party Central Committee. In 1939 Popov was appointed propaganda secretary of the Krasnodar Territory Party Committee; he was subsequently elected second and later first secretary of the Smolensk Province Party Committee. During the war Popov worked on organizing the partisan movement in Smolensk Province, and after the war he helped restore the province's ruined economy. Since 1949 he had worked as Assistant Director of the Party Central Committee's Propaganda and Agitation Department. He was twice elected a Deputy to the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet by the workers of Smolensk Province. He was awarded the Order of Lenin, the Order of the Patriotic War, First Class, and various medals. The bright memory of this staunch Bolshevik will long remain in our hearts. [Signed by] A group of friends and associates.

Follow-up on a Pravda Report: 'CAREFULLY TRAIN PARTY PERSONNEL.'* (Pravda, Jan. 15, p. 2. Complete text:) An article from Novosibirsk was printed under the above heading in Pravda Dec. 8, 1951. Recognizing the criticism in the article as correct, the bureau of the Novosibirsk Province Party Committee has ordered the Legostayevo District Party Committee bureau to outline concrete measures to improve work with primary Party unit secretaries and their assistants. It was decided to send a group of Province Party officials to Legostayevo District to give it practical help.

All district and city Party committees were instructed to discuss the question of improving work with primary Party units secretaries at regular plenary sessions.

State and Law

(Editorial)—RECEPTION OF VISITORS IN SOVIET INSTITUTIONS. (Izvestia, Jan. 9, p. 2. 1300 words. Summary:) The organization of the reception of workers in our institutions plays a particularly important role in extending and strengthening the ties between the state apparatus and the masses. The workers come to the Soviet institutions for different reasons: some with suggestions as to how to improve economic and cultural development, others for their personal needs, for help and advice. It is the duty of the directors of Soviet institutions to organize the reception of visitors properly. Everything is important in this matter: the place where the visitors are received, convenient hours, the opportunity for the visitors to talk to the officials in peace. In looking over the complaints of the workers, a Soviet official must examine them thoroughly, understand the main points and study the reasons for the shortcomings which the visitors report.

The Moskvoretsky Borough Soviet Executive Committee in Moscow pays careful attention to its visitors. A schedule of the receiving hours of the executive committee members is posted in an obvious place in the building. The reception room is comfortable, clean and orderly. The officials listen attentively to those who come, get to the heart of the matter and try to give each one the correct answer.

The workers speak favorably of the organization of the reception of visitors in the Irkutsk Province and City Soviet Executive Committees. These have well-equipped reception rooms and the members of the executive committees receive visitors at appointed hours. Many of the questions raised by the workers in their talks with the executive committee officials become the center of a discussion at a session of the Soviet executive committees.

Careful attention to visitors is a law for Soviet institutions. The officials of our state apparatus must treat every person who appeals to them with respect, sincerely try to help him, support his valuable suggestions and remedy the shortcomings he points out. But unfortunately we have some institutions where the reception of visitors is not given due attention. In the Kaganovich Borough Soviet in Molotov, for instance, no proper conditions have been created for visitors; they have to wait standing in a narrow corridor. Very little time is allotted for receptions; the officials talk to the visitors formally and do not get to the heart of the matter at hand. In the Lvov Province Soviet Executive Committee the officials receive visitors only in the morning and people who come in from the districts often have to wait over in the city until the next day.

Recently the Vinnitsa Province Soviet discussed the question of analyzing workers' complaints and letters in Soviet institutions. The speaker and Deputies pointed out that in the province executive committee itself, in its departments of finance and of public health and in the agricultural administration, the reception of visitors is organized unsatisfactorily and the workers' complaints and letters are not always examined carefully or at the proper time. Comrades Gorokhovsky, Levikovsky, Biryukov and Boltrushko, members of the executive committee, were severely criticized for not having received visitors for two or three months.

In some Soviet institutions the registration of workers' complaints, letters and suggestions is badly organized and there is no proper control over the time limits. Such is the situation in the Miass City Soviet Executive Committee in Chelyabinsk Province. The officials who receive visitors in the city Soviet send the complaints to the executive committee departments and to the different institutions and organizations and consider their work finished. Complaints and letters are often lost in the departments. The officials of some Soviet institutions turn over the reception of visitors and the review of the complaints and letters to minor officials who cannot pass resolutions on the complaints by themselves and who do not have the right to issue directives or orders. As a result simple matters which could be settled easily by major officials are delayed. Such practices should not exist in the work of the Soviet organizations and their directors. It is the indispensable task of every Soviet official to pay careful attention to visitors.

Work of the Soviets: PRECISION AND EFFICIENCY IN WORK. (By P. Minin, Chairman of the Archangel Province Soviet Executive Committee. Izvestia, Jan. 10, p. 2. 1500 words. Summary:) The further development of the socialist economy and culture of Archangel Province necessitates an improvement in the organizational work of the local Soviets. The work of the

* Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. III, No. 49, p. 28.

Soviet apparatus and of its officials is most fruitful only when the officials are in close contact with the working masses and when they display precision, Bolshevist efficiency and initiative. The most important branch of Archangel Province's economy is the lumber industry, which has been growing from year to year. However, the province still does not fulfill the state plans for procurement and export of lumber. Besides shortcomings in the management of this important branch of the province economy by the U.S.S.R. Ministry of the Lumber Industry, one of the reasons for the unsatisfactory work of the lumber enterprises is that the province executive committee's lumber industry department and the officials of several districts do not display the proper initiative, efficiency and persistence in striving to fulfill the state plans.

In Karpogory District, for instance, there are three major lumber camps, all well equipped technically and well supplied with personnel. Nevertheless the lumber procurement enterprises of the district do not cope with their assignments. This is largely the fault of the district Soviet executive committee, which is not sparing with all kinds of resolutions on lumber procurement, quite correct and sufficiently concrete resolutions, but which does not follow them up with the necessary practical measures.

In the beginning of 1951 the Soviet agencies of Lena District undertook a study of the conditions and possibilities of improving the work of each lumber camp and workshop. Thanks to socialist competition, the correct organization of labor and machinery, the introduction of the hourly schedule and the improvement of cultural services to the workers, the lumber procurement enterprises increased their speed of work 50%, and the district was the first to fulfill the quarterly plan in the province. But, having won the province Party committee and province executive committee challenge Red Banner, the officials of Lena District rested on their laurels. The mass organizational work and the management of the enterprises deteriorated, so the production indices went down and the district fulfilled only 80% of the plan for felling timber and 81.8% of the export plan.

Kholmogory District is outstanding in our province for its animal husbandry. The local Soviets of this district worked hard to improve the breeding qualities of the livestock, enlarged the fodder base and improved the care of the livestock. The state three-year plan for the development of animal husbandry was overfulfilled here. And yet far from all the possibilities of increasing the productivity of milk cows are utilized in Kholmogory District. Some collective farms in the district obtain a yield of 4438 liters of milk per cow a year while others average only 1500 to 1700 liters a year. If the experience of the leading livestock breeders were generalized and disseminated, the district would achieve even better results.

The economy of Archangel Province is large and complex. It can be successfully run only by a thoughtful approach to the matter, a profound analysis of past events and a full use of all material and technical possibilities, manpower, experience and initiative. The suggestions of Soviet officials, voters and aktiv members have showed the way to remedy many shortcomings.

For a long time, for instance, grain was transported hundreds of kilometers from distant districts where there were not enough mills and the flour was carted back over the same distance. With government authorization, the province executive committee got the food enterprises and consumers' cooperatives into grinding grain and created a network of mills. Now the useless transportation of grain and flour has been stopped and much money has been saved.

But it should be noted that the valuable initiative of local Soviet agencies and individual officials is not always supported by some ministries and their administrations. The U.S.S.R. Ministry of Agriculture, for instance, underestimates the importance of organizing the regular exchange of experience in animal husbandry, although it is known that Kholmogory cattle are one of the best breeds and are exported to many territories and provinces of the U.S.S.R.

Serious reproaches have also been made to the U.S.S.R. Ministry of the Lumber Industry about supplies for the lumber procurement enterprises. Hundreds of tractors and trucks remain idle for lack of spare parts. All these facts point to a lack of precision and efficiency in the work of the technical supply apparatus of the Ministry of the Lumber Industry and its chief administrations, trusts and enterprises.

ADVANCED EXPERIENCE TO ALL LOCAL SOVIETS. (By Staff Correspondent N. Zagorodny. Izvestia, Jan. 12, p. 2. 1100 words. Summary:) Poltava—Darya Sevastyanovna Serdechnaya, Chairman of Semenovka District Soviet Executive Committee, told us proudly of the changes in the district. In the postwar years the collective farmers of Semenovka District led in the province competition for high sugar beet yields. Previously only the leading farmers of the district had harvested 500 to 600 centners of sugar beets per hectare, and most of the collective farmers did not get more than 120 or 140 centners. So they decided to do something about it. The district Soviet executive committee together with the district Party committee worked out a concrete program to propagandize and introduce the experience of leading farmers. More than 70 of the best team and brigade leaders spoke about their experience at meetings of collective farmers and helped the lagging farms to master methods of cultivating high harvests of sugar beets. The results of this were soon evident. Within the first year the average yield of sugar beets was increased by more than 25 centners per hectare in the district. Despite unfavorable weather conditions, the collective farms of the district overfulfilled the state plan and harvested an average of 223 centners of sugar beets per hectare.

Lagging districts of the province do not know about this valuable experience of Semenovka District through the fault of the Poltava Province Soviet Executive Committee, which does not study, generalize and disseminate the experience of leading farmers. This can be seen in other examples also.

The rural cultural-enlightenment institutions do very poor work in several districts of the province. The collective farmers mention this at meetings, the province newspaper writes about it and there are reports to this effect in the province executive committee. Nevertheless there are examples of good organization of cultural-enlightenment work. The Karlovka District Soviet Executive Committee directs the work of clubs, reading rooms and libraries well. Young collective farmers who have a secondary and higher education run 23 collective farm libraries and 25 clubs. In connection with the amalgamation of the collective farms independent brigades, working far from the farm center, were created on many farms. New reading rooms were set up in order to serve their cultural needs. Rural libraries allotted special supplies of books for these brigades. Many livestock breeders are busy on their livestock farms in the evenings and cannot go to the club, so the district Soviet executive committee took measures to provide for their cultural needs during the daytime. The province Soviet executive committee should study the experience of Karlovka District and disseminate it widely, but it does nothing of the sort.

For three years now a socialist competition of rural, district and city Soviets has been going on. This competition stirs up the work of the local agencies, gives rise to valuable initiative and contributes to the successful fulfillment of economic and cultural tasks. It is the direct duty of the province executive committee to study the experience of the leaders in the competition and to generalize and disseminate it, but it limits itself instead to summing up the results twice a year and passing resolutions listing the leading Soviets.

The Varvarovka Village Soviet has been listed among the winners of the socialist competition for several years in a row, but nothing is known about it aside from the fact that it is a leading Soviet. We visited Varvarovka and found there a large collective farm village with more than 4500 inhabitants. Thanks to the interest of the rural Soviet, a club and a stadium had been built here, a Park of Culture and Rest had been laid out and a lecture bureau and a large library had been opened. In the evening either films are shown or a performance is put on by local amateur drama groups. Lectures and reports are given regularly. Recently the rural library held a readers' conference in which 150 collective farmers took part.

Poltava Province has many leading Soviets. Unfortunately, the directors of the province executive committee do not

trouble themselves to generalize and disseminate experience. And in the long run this has a bad effect on the work of all the Soviets of the province.

Work of the Soviets: CONCERNING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES' WORK PLANS. (By N. Dmitryukov, Senior Instructor of Krasnodar Territory Soviet. Izvestia, Jan. 15, p. 2. 1000 words. Summary:) Krasnodar—Many city and district Soviet executive committees of Krasnodar Territory devote much attention to planning their work. This is particularly true of Pavlovskaya, Belaya Glina, Kushchevskaya and other district Soviets, where each plan is the fruit of the collective labor of all the executive committee members, department heads and Deputies. In these executive committees they usually begin to draw up the plan two weeks before the beginning of the following quarter. On the basis of plans received from the departments, the district executive committee draws up the draft of a general plan which is discussed at meetings of department heads, standing committee chairmen, organizations and establishments and only after that passed by the executive committee. This kind of work on a plan makes it possible for the executive committee to study all the suggestions and wishes of the district officials and Deputies.

Unfortunately, far from all the city and district Soviet executive committees of our territory take such a serious approach to planning their work. Some of them make this important matter into a mere formality; they do not study the possibilities of the district or the local needs and suggestions. The plans are all alike although they are drawn up in districts with very different economies.

In Temryuk District there are, besides collective farms, eight fisheries, a motor fishing station, a cannery and other industrial enterprises. During the first three quarters of the past year the district executive committee did not include anything on the work of the fisheries and industrial enterprises in its plans. The result is that several fisheries regularly do not fulfill their plans and fail to deliver thousands of centners of fish to the state. Neither do the work plans of the Temryuk District Executive Committee contain any mention of increasing the harvest of cotton, the main technical crop on the collective and state farms of the district.

The plans of the Udobnaya District Executive Committee devote no attention to questions of local industry, although the district has large deposits of building stone.

To work on a plan means to define an aim ahead of time and to outline what should be done to realize it. The officials of the Tulskaya District Executive Committee do not adhere to this principle. Instead of bringing up and solving some major problem, they spread their attention on many petty questions; they plan to discuss five different questions about one settlement Soviet when it would be more useful to concentrate all this into one question on the work of that settlement Soviet and to check on its work.

The Krasnoarmeisk District Executive Committee plans its work badly. There are nine rural Soviets in the district, but in the plan for the third quarter of last year only one of them was mentioned. The Mostovskoye District Executive Committee planned to discuss 63 questions in the third quarter of 1951; 20 of these questions had been listed in the plan for the third quarter of 1950. Of the 40 questions which the Labinsk District Executive Committee planned to discuss in the fourth quarter of 1951, 18 had been copied from the fourth quarterly plan of 1950.

These instances show that the directors of some district Soviets are divorced from life, do not know how to concentrate on the most important thing and approach the compilation of plans formally. And wherever the plans are not carefully drawn up, there are inevitably major shortcomings in the guidance of economic and cultural development.

(Editorial)—LOCAL SOVIET EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE INSTRUCTOR. (Izvestia, Jan. 15, p. 1. 1300 words. Summary:) Instruction and regular practical help to lower-echelon officials play an important part in improving the work of local Soviet agencies and teaching the cadres Bolshevist methods of work. The directors of Soviet agencies are responsible for this. The chief duty of the executive committee instructor is to check on the fulfillment of Party and government directives, to instruct lower-echelon officials and to study, generalize and disseminate advanced experience. He should spend most of his time at the places where the Party and government directives are being carried out. He must penetrate profoundly into the work of the Soviet organizations and establishments, enterprises and collective farms and keep in close contact with the people.

The Kuibyshev Province Soviet is a good example of how the work of instructors should be organized. Here all the instructors are assigned to certain districts where they go regularly to check and help the Soviet agencies. The plan for the work of the instructors, which is looked over and approved by the province Soviet executive committee directors, contains such assignments as checkups, instruction and practical help to district executive committees, preparation of material to be considered at sessions of the province executive committee, study, generalization and dissemination of advanced experience in Soviet work, etc. Last year the instructors of the Kuibyshev Province Executive Committee worked hard on the problem of having Soviet agencies help the Deputies in their work. Many instructors visited the districts for long periods of time in order to conduct seminars for district and rural Soviet officials and organize the work of Soviet standing committees. Among others, the questions of fulfilling the voters' instructions and of socialist competition among the rural Soviets were raised for discussion at the province Soviet session through the initiative of the instructors.

The work of Omsk Province Executive Committee instructors Comrades Buluchevsky and Novgorodtsev is worthy of attention. They keep in close contact with the districts to which they are attached, visit them regularly, carry on a standing correspondence with a large group of rural Soviet chairmen who report regularly to the province executive committee on the progress of important economic and political campaigns, make comments on the work of district and province Soviet agencies and help them to disclose shortcomings in time. The instructors of the Altai Territory Executive Committee and the Vologda, Novosibirsk and other province executive committees also do good work.

However, it should be mentioned that in many province executive committees, and particularly in the district Soviet executive committees, the work of instructors is poorly organized. They are often prevented from fulfilling their immediate duties and are overloaded with technical work such as compiling all sorts of reference books. The executive committees of the Kemerovo, Saratov, Kokchetav and several other province Soviets do not devote sufficient attention to day-to-day work with the instructors. The officials of executive committees must create proper conditions for fruitful work by instructors. Instructors' seminars should be held more often. Discussion of the plans of the organization and instruction departments at executive committee meetings, conversations between the executive committee officials and the instructors before their trips to the districts and villages and after their return from their assignments—all these and other forms of guidance and help to the instructors should become daily practice in the work of local Soviets.

An executive committee instructor holds a highly responsible position which should be filled only by politically trained people, deserving of authority and loving Soviet work. The Soviet executive committees must guide the work of the instructors from day to day and increase their importance so that the instructors can cope honorably with the tasks that face them.

(Feuilleton)—FOR POSTERITY. (By S. Bakhtiarov. Pravda, Jan. 14, p. 2. Complete text:) Kazan—Vladimir Porfiryevich Golovin, Chairman of the Kazan City Executive Committee, was grieved. He had been severely reprimanded by the Deputies at a session of the city Soviet. They reproached him for his indifferent attitude toward repairing residential houses, for the municipal park where goats grazed and for much else.

The Deputies' critical remarks had an unexpected effect: Vladimir Porfiryevich came to the conclusion that his ungrateful contemporaries were not capable of evaluating his versatile activity. He decided to concentrate on the future, to raise a

monument not of human hands in the hearts of those who would follow.

The directors of the local newsreel film office were urgently summoned to the chairman's office.

"It's possible," said the directors in a businesslike manner after they had received their assignment. "We will do it."

A draft of a scenario was soon worked out, and cameramen were brought in—

We will not go into further detail about the shooting procedure for it plays a minor part in this case. But rather, reader, let us go straight to the heart of the matter and look at the feature film made on the initiative and with the personal participation of Vladimir Porfiryevich Golovin.

So—attention! The performance is starting.

On the screen—blackout. Out of the darkness, in the foreground, comes the wing of airplane. Under the wing a city gradually emerges from the fog.

The plane is coming down. Framed by two silver ribbons—the Volga and the Kazanka—the city emerges clearly. The towers of the ancient Kazan fortress pass by.

The plane circles over the building of the city executive committee. Lower, still lower—

Blackout. From the darkness appears a panoramic view—the office of the city executive committee chairman.

Vladimir Porfiryevich is making a report.

The participants in the session, the responsible officials of the city executive committee, are at a long table. Their faces, turned toward the speaker, express concentrated interest and deep respect.

The speaker is seen both in profile and full face.

The speaker in the middle distance.

The speaker in the foreground. In the background, behind him, is a plan of the city of Kazan.

With flourishing, authoritative gestures Vladimir Porfiryevich is pointing to the map of the city. And, as if in answer to these gestures, charming pictures of municipal improvement appear on the screen—

A wide street is being asphalted.

A new streetcar line is being laid.

A sidewalk comes into view. At the edge of it leafy young linden trees are being planted.

And again Vladimir Porfiryevich—in profile and full face, in the foreground and the middle distance. Again, as if at the waving of his hand, we see—

A new apartment building in scaffolding—(Here the cameraman cleverly avoids the ruined house which is directly opposite the city executive committee; they have been tearing it down for three years and cannot manage to finish the job.)

The Dynamo Stadium—how beautiful and orderly it looks!

The municipal park—What luxuriant shade trees! We can almost hear from the screen their inviting rustle and the warbling of the birds perched on the thick branches. (They are so leafy, these trees, that they completely hide from our view the steps which lead to the upper level of the park and which collapsed last summer.)

And wouldn't the reader like in closing to see once again on the screen the hero among his admiring subordinates?

This moving film cost (of course not Comrade Golovin but the state) 30,000 rubles. And it is being carefully preserved now in Vladimir Porfiryevich's office in a huge fireproof cabinet. The movie-going public has never seen it. This is quite natural for it is, as we have already mentioned, intended not for contemporaries but for posterity.

Let these modest lines serve as a warning to posterity not to overestimate the individual role of V. P. Golovin in history and, in particular, in the economy of state funds and the municipal construction of Kazan.

(Feuilleton)—MIRZALIYEV 'DEFENDS HIMSELF.' (By Ye. Andreyev. Sotsialisticheskoye zemledeliye. Jan 12, p. 3. Complete text:) When Comrade Abuyev, Deputy Minister for Machine and Tractor Stations of the Dagestan Ministry of Agriculture, returned from his latest vacation, he began to notice that some of his friends and acquaintances were acting strangely. Some pretended not to recognize him; and if they noticed him at a distance, they crossed to the other side of the street; when they met him face to face, they obviously tried to end the conversation and leave him.

For some time Comrade Abuyev kept guessing. But soon he came across a friend employed in the republic Ministry of Finance.

"Abuyev!" the man exclaimed. "So they've already let you out?"

"They never insist on your staying on there," Abuyev said. "My pass was for 28 days. Wonderful sanatorium—"

"Wait a minute, who's talking about a sanatorium? Weren't you—you know—taken into court—"

"When? What did I do?" The deputy minister exclaimed, bewildered.

"What did you do? Mirzaliyev said it was for embezzling 73 tons of fuel."

A few days later, Comrade Abuyev met another comrade. The scene was almost an exact repetition of the preceding one.

"But you were taken into court!"

"For what reason?"

"Mirzaliyev said you stole a car."

Later, Comrade Abuyev found out that he had also been "accused" of covering up embezzlers, of illegal extortion of 176 centners of grain from collective farms, of shielding crooks, of stealing 100,000 rubles of state funds and of several other "felonies." And in every instance the source of the rumors was a certain Mirzaliyev.

The deputy minister went to the local newspaper Dagestanskaya pravda [Dagestan Truth].

"Well!" they exclaimed as they saw him. "The man is at large—and this Mirzaliyev was saying—"

Comrade Abuyev decided to ask the public prosecutor for advice.

"Ah, Comrade Abuyev, you have probably come about Mirzaliyev? We know all about him. Who doesn't?"

Comrade Abuyev became nervous and irritable. When a visitor came to see him in his office, he would shiver and wonder sadly whether the visitor would not tell him about some new "crime" he had committed. He was at the end of his tether, but Mirzaliyev spread ever new rumors about him.

"Just an ordinary slanderer," the reader will say.

Oh, no—not ordinary. Usually an ordinary slanderer acts on the sly, secretly; he writes denunciations, sometimes even anonymous ones, and tries to cover up his traces. He seems to be saying: "I'll do my slandering and you, you try to check up on it." But in this case, nothing is secret. Mirzaliyev acts in the open. He takes his "denunciations" to the Ministry of Agriculture, to the local newspaper and to the public prosecutor. The fact that his accusations are not confirmed does not bother him. If one is found untrue, he invents another. Mirzaliyev was very spectacular when he accused Abuyev:

"I'll get his hide!" he fumed to his co-workers. "I'll finish him off!"

But why does this slanderer behave in such an unorthodox way? The explanation is very simple. Mirzaliyev is a Ministry of Finance inspector of M.T.S. He has a court record. His last sentence was for libel—not so long ago, when he was already employed by the Ministry of Finance. He is a worthless worker: this fact is well known there and the order for his dismissal ia already prepared. Prepared but not yet signed.

The whole affair started when the inspector found out about the order and decided to defend himself. How? By his favorite method, of course: by slander. And so he started. He picked up the data of inspections long since completed, mixed them up with lies and started to concoct denunciation after denunciation. And strangely enough, he succeeded. As long as Mirzaliyev slanders, his superiors do not dare to sign the order for his dismissal, lest people might say that he was fired for criticism! For the past few months Mirzaliyev has not been working as inspector. He has no time for it. He roves from M.T.S. to M.T.S., feverishly going through the records for new material, for new accusations against Abuyev. And he makes quite a noise. Because the more noise there is the greater is Mirzaliyev's certitude that the order of dismissal will not be signed. An inspector of the U.S.S.R. Ministry of Agriculture has arrived in Makhachkala to investigate Mirzaliyev's charges. The inspector has only begun to investigate, but Mirzaliyev has already sent a letter to several different addresses in Moscow:

"The slightest distortion of the facts I have presented can only be considered as covering up."

Mirzaliyev does not yet know at what conclusions the inspector will arrive, but he is already slandering him—slandering him publicly—for double insurance.

It's the old method. But we think that this time it won't help the slanderer.

(Feuilleton)—MALIGNERS. (By Sem. Narinyani. Pravda, Jan. 11, p. 2. 1100 words. Condensed text:) At noon the wedding procession approached the doors of the State Registry Office. Lazar Mikhailovich helped Yekaterina Nikolayevna out of the taxi, and with some difficulty she covered the distance from there to the official's desk, leaning on his arm. The official gave the old woman a seat and then asked Lazar Mikhailovich:

"And who are you—Yekaterina's Nikolayevna's son?"

"No, I'm her husband."

The official stared at the couple before him. And there was reason for his surprise: she was past 60 and he was not yet 45. And Lazar Mikhailovich demanded that their marriage be registered immediately:

"I have known and loved my darling Katyenka for a long time."

It is true that Lazar Mikhailovich had known Yekaterina Nikolayevna for many years, but he had been in no hurry with the nuptials. And then suddenly he had a brainstorm. He called a taxi and took his darling Katyenka, in the 62nd year of her life, to the registry office.

But it was not love which inspired all this haste. More prosaic motives prompted the actions of the semiliterary live wire Lazar Mikhailovich Bernshtein. Yekaterina Nikolayevna had received an apartment in the newly built house belonging to the Music Hall Artist Housing Construction Cooperative; and since Lazar Mikhailovich had far-reaching plans of his own with regard to this apartment, he took his darling Katyenka away from the registry office—not to a wedding breakfast but to the housing department of the Moscow City Soviet. The very next day the ingenious bridegroom carried out a fictitious exchange of apartments, leasing two rooms to his acquaintance Geniyev-Panteleyev. And six months later, when Yekaterina Nikolayevna died, the young widower, now sole owner of a large apartment, decided to arrange a new exchange, this time with a certain S. A. Reimer. This time, however, the deal did not go through. The board of the cooperative not only opposed this new speculation in housing but began to prepare evidence on which to summon Lazar Mikhailovich into court for his first offense.

"Enter a countercomplaint," Reimer advised the widower.

"I would, but I have nothing to complain about."

"Good Lord, then think of something! Call one of the board members a thief, another an embezzler and another an adulterer. They're all a bunch of operators—you'll frighten them and they'll climb down fast."

But the board members were not frightened and did not withdraw their charges. So a stream of counteraccusations was sent to various Party, Soviet and trade union agencies. And in order that Lazar Mikhailovich should not be accused of settling personal scores, all these slanders were prudently signed not by Bernshtein himself but by his friends. There were many of these slanders: S. A. Reimer alone dispatched them to 20 different organizations. And they all began with the same phrase:

"Help an honest man to obtain justice."

And every organization began an investigation, dragging from the files data on the housing cooperative's activities for a ten-year period and checking them with the help of experts and auditors—all this so that after a month or two of careful investigation it could say to Reimer:

"Your charge has not been confirmed."

So Reimer would head for the next organization and prefer a new charge:

"Help an honest man—"

Hard times began for the members of the housing cooperative board. The "operators" had no time to operate on their regular duties because they could hardly manage to answer all the questions of the auditors and to write the reports and explanations demanded. But no matter how rough the going became for the "operators," the maligners could not make them give in. ...

And then one of Reimer's slanders appeared quite unexpectedly in the newspaper Sovetskoye iskusstvo over the signature of the artist A. Rokhovich. Apparently Sovetskoye iskusstvo's staff had faith in Rokhovich's reputation as a writer, and Rokhovich had abused this faith. For the sake of his friend Bernshtein,A. Rokhovich had violated the ethics of the Soviet writer and taken sides against the truth. He was not ashamed to use a newspaper to malign people who had caught his friends speculating. The article in Sovetskoye iskusstvo was followed by the formation of a number of commissions, not one of which confirmed the accusations made by Rokhovich. The U.S.S.R. Ministry of Finance was first to state this and the Committee on Affairs of the Arts was second. The investigation by the Moscow Public Prosecutor's Office lasted ten months, but the conclusion was the same. The slander was not confirmed.

And what happened to the slanderers? Were they punished? Unfortunately not. And, because they were unpunished, they immediately sent out seven new slanderous statements charging the Ministry of Finance, the Committee on Affairs of the Arts and the Public Prosecutor's Office with bribe-taking, extortion and other alleged crimes. And again it was necessary to form commissions. And again Reimer's challenging cry rang out:

"Help an honest man!"

Just who is he, this maligner who calls himself an honest man? In the house where Reimer lives hardly anyone calls him by his own name. At one time he was known as Sofia Nikolayevna's husband, then he became Anna Ivanovna's husband. For Reimer matrimony has ceased to be a family connection and has become a business. Even at tenants' meetings he speaks not in his own name but on the written authority of his wife. This dependent spouse has taken part in all manner of dark and dirty machinations. In his day he has been convicted of misappropriating 200,000 rubles, and he has also been tried for speculation.

For two years now, thanks to Reimer and his friends, dozens of different organizations have been wasting their energy, time and money investigating all manner of lying complaints. Suffice it to say that the city public prosecutor's investigators alone have had to question about 200 people on the basis of Reimer's and Rokhovich's complaints. In addition, 20 court sessions have been held on Bernshtein's cases. And he is still dissatisfied and demanding a twenty-first.

(Feuilleton)—SOMEONE, SOMEHOW, SOMEWHERE. (By D. Zaslavsky, Pravda, Jan. 9, p. 2. 1100 words. Condensed text:) The magazine Sovetsky svyazist [Soviet Communications Worker] (No. 1, 1951) contains an editorial by the U.S.S.R. Minister of Communications, Comrade N. Psurtsev, modestly drawing attention to the achievements of Soviet communications workers in 1950, dwelling in detail on their shortcomings and defining tasks for 1951.

Midway between the achievements and the tasks Comrade Psurtsev drops a few enigmatic words:

"The movement for consolidating jobs is progressing very slowly here, although it is a movement of exceptional importance to communications agencies. Someone is quietly putting a spoke in the wheel."

The boldness and expressiveness of the image lead one to imagine that the author of the article is the driver of some impressive vehicle. The vehicle is rolling smoothly forward along the road indicated by the plan, and suddenly the driver senses that something is wrong. One of the wheels has locked. What is the matter? Someone is putting a spoke in the wheel!

But the analogy ends here. For what would an ordinary, plain, nonsymbolic driver do in such an eventuality? He would remove the spoke and take more or less impolite measures against the silent inserters of it. And he would then proceed on his way unhampered.

But matters were not that simple when it came to disseminating advanced experience in the consolidation of jobs. A year has gone by and things are still as they were. To speak more accurately, our communications work is of course advancing, but spokes are still being put in the wheels by "someone," and for this reason this exceptionally important task is being carried out "somehow or other" and "somewhere or other."

To an outsider this seems to be an equation with a lot of unknown quantities, but this is only to an outsider. In reality all the quantities are known.

Someone = the Chief Radio Installation Administration (Director Comrade Vasilyev, Chief Engineer Comrade Severov).

Somehow = the Central Intradistrict Communications Administration (Director Comrade Loginov).

Somewhere = in the matter of mastering and disseminating the valuable experience of Latvian communications workers in combining the functions of telephone operator and radio operator. Spokes have been put into the local telephone and radio system.

A few years ago, stimulated by the general movement toward the consolidation of jobs, some modest communications workers in Latvia tried, with the help of engineers, the bold experiment of combining the work of the telephone switchboard and the radio network. That is how an outsider sees it.

Formerly the telephone girl used to sit at her table in front of the switchboard and plug in the calls. At the same time a radio technician sat at his table in another small room and tuned in a radio. The bold innovators moved the radio and a small adapting device by the telephone girl. In some instances they moved the switchboard and installed it by the radio. There was no need to move the table and chair as well, because one worker sat at one table on one chair and worked both the radio and the switchboard. ...

Just concern developed lest confusion might result from such a combination, that for example telephone subscribers might hear opera overtures along with harvest reports or, on the other hand, that strange noises, static and various other disturbances might develop in the radio network due to the proximity of the telephone. However, many cautious commissions of highly educated and experienced engineers from Moscow determined that there were no local disturbances in the ether and that telephone operations were at a high level. Meanwhile, the saving in manpower and materials would be a great one, measured in millions of rubles if this experience were disseminated throughout the country. In an expansive decree the ministry approved the initiative of the Latvian communications workers and recommended that their experience be imitated everywhere.

But here disturbances appeared. Here "someone" put a spoke in the telephone sockets and radio sets and a most incomprehensible disturbance called "fading" developed. Sound died in the ether, and the valuable experience began to die away in the central apparatus.

"Someone" thinks the experience is open to question. Not doubting its technical feasibility and admitting that such a combination is possible in principle, "someone" sees a serious obstacle in the administrative sense. It's all a matter of how the object of combining the features of telephone and radio is viewed. ...

Some people say: "Inasmuch as a new phenomenon arose and exists, one which is progressive and adapted to life, so a new form corresponding to it must develop, for content determines form."

Others retort: "Inasmuch as an old form exists unchanged, so a new phenomenon with a new content cannot develop. First the form and then the content." I.e., first state agencies and only then content based on these agencies.

Until this serious dispute is settled, the editorial writers of Sovetsky svyazist will look despondently at the spokes in the wheels. It is not difficult, however, to convince oneself that the arguments of the low-voltage proponents of the formal aspect of the case are extremely weak.

There is another point of interest. It is curious how rapidly the thoughts of communications workers move on the district and province level and how slowly they move at the center. Radio and telephone operators immediately seized on the innovators' experience, not only in Latvia but elsewhere as well. A bond of fellowship immediately united them—they felt themselves workers in a common cause. No special transportation was needed to move the instruments from one room to another, or from one building to another.

Only in the building of the Ministry of Communications are there no ties between the heads of the two administrations, and for a year now the paterfamilias of the numerous tribe of telephone operators and the paterfamilias of the radio operators have been unable to establish a working relationship and overcome obstacles of a purely formal nature.

This is a serious matter. The spoke in the wheel of communications work cannot be tolerated indefinitely.

Deputy's Forum: WHAT WE EXPECT OF PROVINCE SOVIET EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. (By P. Zhuzhzhalov, Chairman of Bobrov District Soviet Executive Committee, Voronezh Province. Izvestia, Jan. 13, p. 2. 1000 words. Summary:) Thousands of Soviet officials in Voronezh Province are enrolled in the Party education system or study Marxism-Leninism independently. In recent years 30 district executive committee chairmen and 15 vice-chairmen have completed the course in the two-year province Party school. Fifteen chairmen finished the nine-month courses under this school. But Soviet officials should gain more specialized knowledge, should study the work of the Soviets, Soviet law, etc. Unfortunately, this is not done in the Voronezh Province Soviet Executive Committee.

Very little use is made of correspondence courses for Soviet officials in our province. Of the 84 district executive committee chairmen, only nine are taking higher education correspondence courses. Six rural Soviet chairmen are now studying in the province secondary correspondence school and in correspondence sections of agricultural technicums. In the past three years the province executive committee has not held a single seminar on theoretical subjects for district executive committee chairmen and their assistants. The funds allotted for holding such seminars remain unused every year.

After every session of the province Soviet, the district executive committee chairmen are called together at the province executive committee in order to "chatter" hurriedly and not always intelligibly on current questions. How nice it would be to hear a good lecture on the work of the Soviets, to learn more about revolutionary law, agrotechny and the mechanization of agriculture and to exchange working experience! All this could be done in seminars. It would be good to organize regular studies for lower-echelon Soviet officials, but the province executive committee has done nothing about this.

Studies are conducted differently in some districts. In Archangel District, for instance, Soviet aktiv schools have been in operation for two years under the rural Soviets. The Melovatsky District Executive Committee made it a practice to hold "Soviet Official's Day." A district school for Soviet aktiv was opened two years ago in Olkhovatka District. However, this experience has not been studied, generalized or spread to other districts.

A Soviet official can and should improve his knowledge, extend his horizons and study leadership not only in correspondence courses and seminars but also by practical work. But the help of the province executive committee is needed for this, and unfortunately we do not get it. From the central newspapers we know that in many province executive committees there are departments of Soviet work and Deputies' rooms where the Soviet official can find literature on the work of the Soviets, can learn the latest things in Soviet work and become acquainted with the experience of other Soviets. But no such things exist in Voronezh Province.

We cannot complain that the province executive committee officials do not visit the district often, but their visits are very short and often are connected with some current campaign. The instructors of the province executive committee are busy investigating workers' complaints, forgetting about their main duty of teaching the Soviet officials.

We have very little literature on the work of the Soviets, although this is in great demand. In Voronezh, for instance, only one pamphlet on the work of the Soviets has been printed since the war.

The Voronezh Province Executive Committee must take a serious interest in the studies and growth of lower-echelon Soviet officials.

Follow-up on an Izvestia Report: 'TERRITORY CENTER AND DISTRICT.' * (Izvestia, Jan. 9, p. 2. Complete text:) The article published under the above heading in Izvestia provoked lively

* Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. III, No. 39, p. 34.

reactions from Soviet organizations of the Altai. At the third session of the territory Soviet the Deputies discussed this article and criticized the territory executive committee for incorrect methods of directing the districts.

In its resolution the territory Soviet wrote: "A serious shortcoming in the work of the executive committee, as Izvestia pointed out, is that individual resolutions passed on the basis of reports from the district executive committees hardly reflect the differences between the districts and do not take into account the possibilities of developing the economy and culture."

The article was discussed at a conference of Soviet and managerial officials of Barnaul and of employees of the territory executive committee apparatus. The participants in the conference noted mistakes in planning agricultural production and remarked on the low level of mass organizational work. The territory executive committee passes many resolutions and issues many orders, but it pays little attention to checking on their fulfillment.

Follow-up on a Pravda Report: 'SLANDERERS.' * (Pravda, Jan. 15, p. 2. Complete text:) A feuilleton by I. Ryabov was published under the above heading in Pravda Nov. 21, 1951. Comrade Safonov, U.S.S.R. Public Prosecutor, has informed the editors that the facts set forth in the feuilleton have been completely confirmed in an investigation. It has been established that P. M. Kolbneva and M. E. Meshchaninova systematically engaged in slander, deliberately and falsely accusing citizens and officials of misdemeanors and crimes.

Criminal proceedings were brought against the slanderers. The Tambov district court sentenced P. M. Kolbneva and M. E. Meshchaninova to two years' deprivation of liberty.

National Economy

THE COURSE OF NEW RIVERS. (By Konstantin Paustovsky. Sotsialisticheskoye zemledeliye, Jan. 1, p. 3. 2100 words. Condensed text:) ... Man chose water as his first helper in the work of re-creating nature. The Soviet Union is richer in water than any other country on earth. More than 100,000 rivers flow over the plains of our country, from the great Volga, Yenisei and Lena to the lily-cluttered Petlyaika and Moshka.

Nowhere in Europe is there such a frequent interlacing of rivers with so many tributaries. Nowhere do rivers flowing into different seas come so close to one another. A map of Russian rivers resembles a fine, irregular net. If we were to unravel this complex net into a single thread it would stretch 2,500,000 kilometers. ...

The rivers of the Soviet Union carry about 4000 cubic kilometers of water to the seas every year. One thousand five hundred of our 100,000 rivers can be considered large rivers, while some—the Volga, Dnieper, Yenisei, Lena, Ob, Amu-Darya, Northern Dvina, Amur and Don—can even be called tremendous.

Most of the river water of the Soviet Union flows into the cold polar seas, through areas where life is hard and where the frozen ground gives comparatively little opportunity for the development of a people's economy. The Yenisei alone pours more than 500 cubic kilometers of water into the Arctic Ocean every year.

For thousands of years man has been a mere helpless witness of this clumsy wasting of the forces of nature. He has not even dared to dream of stopping this unlimited waste of water and of diverting it into fertile but arid lands. But now this is a matter of the near future. Part of the waters of the Ob, Irtysh and Yenisei are to be stopped in their age-old course, turned back and diverted along new channels into the Turan and Caspian Lowlands. The complex problem of exploiting the Siberian rivers is now being carefully studied.

Siberian water will nourish the deserts and semideserts of Central Asia; it will kill the dry winds and create a new and humid climate. The channels of old, dried-up rivers will be filled with water, and the water will operate power plants, irrigate fields and make it possible to grow large crops in places where until recently vast tracts of land were covered with dry grasses. ...

The old geography of Russia is dying before our eyes. The land is being divided according to a new and rational pattern. Soviet man is discarding an unfavorable climate and replacing it with another. Entirely new, hospitable areas are being created in the southern and southeastern parts of the country. New cities are springing up, new centers of human habitation.

The Volga, Kama and later the Oka are being blocked by dams and transformed into a succession of tremendous deep reservoirs. The entire Volga, from its sources to Stalingrad, will become a sparkling "cascade" of power stations linked together by locks. ... The Kuibyshev and Stalingrad Reservoirs will be the largest man-made bodies of water in the world. Their water will be raised by powerful pumping stations into irrigation canals, some of which will rival large rivers in volume of water. The canal from the Stalingrad Reservoir to the Urals will carry as much water as the Oka, while the trunk canal from the Tsimlyanskaya Reservoir to the Don steppes will carry 50% more water than the Don River. ...

The great stairway of 13 locks on the Volga-Don Canal is almost completed. The canal is almost ready to be opened. ... Steamers from the river port at Moscow, the Okhta docks in Leningrad and the white shores of Archangel will make direct voyages to far southern Rostov and even to the coastal cities of the Azov and Black Seas. The masts of seagoing vessels with their top lights will sail past the forests and meadows of Russia, past places which until recently were in age-old isolation. Startled elk will twitch their ears as they hear the deep whistles of these vessels. ...

Steamers will cut across the vast tracts of the land of Soviets. Dozens of dialects and languages will be heard on their decks, and dozens of cities will glide past the steamers headed for distant places on the rivers, cities with an aura of ancient and modern glory, bustling and picturesque.

Perhaps nothing will be more alluring and attractive than these voyages. They will be especially instructive for our young people. ...

A first-class new fleet is being fitted out for navigation on the Don Sea and later on the Stalingrad and Kuibyshev Seas. ...

Water from the Don Sea will flow through four tunnels cut through the Sal Highlands and will be used to irrigate the Sal and Don steppes, supplying water to an area of about 3,000,000 hectares. Three billion cubic meters of Don water will be used every year to bring moisture to the arid steppes.

When all the construction projects of communism are completed the total area of irrigated land will reach 28,000,000 hectares. Throughout its entire long history mankind has been able to reclaim about 80 million hectares of land from the deserts on all continents of the earth. Our country will reclaim 28,000,000 hectares of desert in a matter of years. This alone is an indication of the scale of irrigation projects in the U.S.S.R.

It has been calculated that after all work has been completed 125,000,000,000 cubic meters of water will evaporate into the air every year from all the irrigated lands, all the reservoirs and from the foliage of the new forests. This tremendous amount of vapor will moisten the atmosphere, will begin to condense into rain clouds, will feed the rivers and will radically alter the climate. The dry winds will die like mad dogs with rough, dry tongues. ...

Our country stands at the threshold of great prosperity. It is being led toward this prosperity by the mighty Communist Party and by the inspired will of Stalin, the great transformer of nature, the great friend of all peoples of the Soviet Union and of all progressive mankind.

PLAN FOR EQUIPPING KAKHOVKA LOCK. (Izvestia, Jan. 11, p. 1. Complete text:) Leningrad—The collective of the Leningrad Planning and Designing Office of the All-Soviet Hydroelectric Assembly Trust has finished plans for building the mechanical equipment for the navigation lock of the Kakhovka Hydroelectric Station.

In their work the designers made use of the latest Soviet technical achievements. The lock provides a 16-meter drop. The water to fill the 300-meter long lock chamber does not come, as usual, from the canal but from a special intake. The

* Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. III, No. 47, p. 23.

water is let out directly back into the river, creating more favorable traffic conditions. Vessels going up and down stream can stop near the lock itself. This considerably increases the capacity of the lock.

The plan envisages the use of many technical innovations. The gates are to be entirely of welded construction. On the head-race side one-piece drop gates will be built. Pumping machinery will be installed in the lower repair gates, which will be conventionally hung.

(Editorial)—MOST IMPORTANT THING IN SOCIALIST COMPETITION. (Pravda, Jan. 15, p. 1. 1400 words. Summary:) In the course of socialist competition a movement has developed to produce high-quality goods and lower unit costs of production, to save raw materials, supplies and electric power and to introduce complex mechanization and automatization of production. High-speed smelting, metal-cutting and construction work and the cyclical timetable in the coal industry are being introduced ever more widely. A struggle is being waged to increase the length of time oil wells work without repair and the distance covered by locomotives in each 24-hour period, and to speed up the turnaround of railroad cars and ships. Agricultural workers are competing to obtain high crop yields, increase the head of communally owned cattle and raise livestock productivity.

An increase in the supply of technical equipment and trained personnel is permitting us to solve the most important problems of developing the Soviet economy. Yet certain Party, trade union and industrial organizations do not always take account of these changes in their supervision of competition and commit serious errors in organizing it.

In certain enterprises and collective farms socialist competition is still directed mainly toward obtaining quantitative results, and no proper effort is made to secure high qualitative work indices. Many enterprises overfulfill their plans to the detriment of quality of output and assortment of goods, at the same time wasting much raw material, fuel and electric power and incurring monetary losses from spoilage of goods. It is time to put an end to such antistate practices.

The Party and the government point out that at present the main tasks of socialist competition, apart from obligatory fulfillment of the state plans by every shop and enterprise, are as follows: to struggle for over-all improvement in quality and reduction in unit costs of production, for economy of raw materials and supplies, for correct utilization of internal reserves of industry and agriculture, for the introduction of new machinery and advanced technology and for a further increase in labor productivity. The carrying out of these tasks is the most important thing in socialist competition.

However, the heads of certain ministries, departments and enterprises are not yet paying enough attention to the development of competition. They tolerate the regular failure of certain enterprises to fulfill output plans and take no resolute measures to raise lagging enterprises to the level of advanced ones.

There are also major shortcomings in the supervisory work of a number of trade union organizations. Many of them rarely discuss problems of organizing competition and pass over serious mistakes and distortions in it. In a number of enterprises socialist pledges are taken late and the results of competition are not examined in time, are discussed in a formal manner and are not brought up at workers' meetings. Consequently the pledges undertaken often do not correspond to the tasks confronting the enterprise or shop in question.

Party, trade union, Young Communist League and industrial organizations are under obligation to effect a decisive improvement in the supervision of competition and to ensure active participation by all workers, collective farmers and specialists.

Industry

FOR REDUCTION OF METAL USED ON EACH UNIT OF OUTPUT.—Valuable Initiative of Young Workers and Specialists of J. V. Stalin Auto Plant, Moscow, (Pravda, Jan. 9, p. 1. 600 words. Summary:) The personnel of the J. V. Stalin Auto Plant in Moscow, having completed last year's production program ahead of schedule, are developing socialist competition for successful fulfillment of the tasks facing the enterprise in 1952.

The young workers and specialists of the auto plant have displayed valuable initiative. They have proposed to begin competition for complex reduction of metal expenditure per unit of output on each article produced.

In the spring shop A. Seliverstov's cutting brigade is carrying out a whole series of measures to reduce waste in cutting out spring leaves while improving the quality of the work. The brigade has pledged itself to save 96 tons of metal in 1952.

Complex brigades of designers, technicians and Stakhanovites are being set up in the shops in order to draw up more constructive measures for reducing metal expenditure.

The patriotic initiative of the young workers and specialists was discussed and approved by the plant's Young Communist League, trade union and Party committees.

FOLLOWING MOSCOW AUTOMOBILE BUILDERS' EXAMPLE. (Pravda, Jan. 15, p. 1. Complete text:) Vladimir—Personnel of the A. A. Zhdanov Tractor Plant in Vladimir have given warm support to the initiative of the Moscow automobile builders who began competition to reduce metal expenditure on each product manufactured.

At a production conference of forge shop workers Comrade Vasilyev, a punch press operator, said:

"I am given a billet of metal weighing 14 kilograms from which to stamp out an automobile front seat weighing only eight kilograms. Thus almost half the metal goes to waste. We used to think that this was good enough, but now I propose to stamp out two parts from the same billet of metal at the same time."

Other valuable proposals for saving metal were made by punch press operator Comrade Leonov and technician Comrade Sotnikov.

As a result of the discussion the shop personnel warmly supported the Muscovites' example and undertook increased obligations to save metal.

The Moscow workers' initiative was discussed from all angles in other shops of the plant also.

The Young Communists in the casting shop, for example, calculated their resources and resolved to save 55 tons of metal in the first quarter of 1952. They are living up to their pledge: on one day alone the bar section of this shop saved 1200 kilograms of wire.

LATEST IN HIGH-SPEED OIL WELL DRILLING. (By Sharif Fatkuliyev. Pravda, Jan. 13, p. 1. 850 words. Condensed text:) Baku—Baku oil workers have long been famous for high-speed oil well drilling. ... In August, 1951, the Young Communist brigade headed by the young foreman Aga Dadash Korbalai Ogly attained the unparalleled speed of 5212 meters per month of drilling time. This example shows the enormous possibilities in drilling, the vast potentialities for improving quality and reducing the cost of sinking wells.

I and my brigade succeeded in discovering one of these potentialities, thus making possible a considerable reduction in material costs and drilling time. ...

My brigade received the order to drill a well 1560 meters deep in a newly opened field. According to the established geological-technical system of drilling it was recommended that we drill a two-shaft well, using a clay weighting compound. ...

After careful study of the geological peculiarities of the area I came to the conclusion that we could drill the well without a clay weighting compound by using higher drilling speeds than were envisaged in the geological-technical system. ...

From the very beginning we drilled at a very high speed. Consequently we exceeded the speed provided for by the plan—550 meters per month of drilling time—and actually drilled 1214 meters per month. In this way we halved the time needed to complete the well, saving 40 days. ...

By not using a weighting compound our brigade also saved about 300,000 rubles. ....

Our initiative has been highly praised by the Ministry of the Oil Industry. High-speed drilling without a weighting compound has been adopted not only in Azerbaidzhan but also in the

Central Asian, Grozny, Krasnodar and other oilfields of the Soviet Union.

Dissemination of this method will lead to a great saving in state funds and to a further speed-up in drilling and an increase in oil output.

Letter to the Editor: LUMBER COOPERATIVE NEEDS HELP. (By M. Chervotkin, Chairman of the Presidium of the Omsk Province Lumber Industry Producers' Cooperative. Izvestia, Jan. 9, p. 2. 250 words. Summary:) Omsk—In the past four years the cooperative lumber enterprises of Omsk Province have doubled their output of industrial products. The production of furniture increased sevenfold and the 1951 plan was fulfilled ahead of schedule. Nevertheless, the lumber cooperatives of the province are not utilizing all their opportunities to increase production of consumers' goods. The province organizations and the Russian Republic Lumber Industry Council are to blame for this situation. The enterprises in charge of lumber procurement lack machinery and sufficient means for transporting lumber by water from the northern districts to the southern ones. Our requests for a motor launch have gone unheeded.

Many district planning committees still organize local industry planning badly, which means that many enterprises in the same district manufacture identical products.

Letter to the Editor: ON LUMBER TRANSSHIPMENT INSTALLATIONS. (By F. Gladkov, Director of Astrakhan City Finance Department. Izvestia, Jan. 15, p. 2. 250 words. Summary:) Astrakhan—The city of Astrakhan is the terminal for logging down the Volga. From there lumber is shipped to many different construction projects in the Caucasus and Transcaucasus. Lumber transshipment centers under different ministries, and offices of the so-called authorized new construction projects, exist in the city in order to receive the lumber and ship it to its appointed place. The U.S.S.R. Ministry of Power Plants alone has five such centers and the U.S.S.R. Ministry of the Oil Industry two. All these organizations have very small shipment plans and a very large overhead. In 1950 one center shipped 28,000 cubic meters of lumber and spent 649,000 rubles for maintenance of personnel. It is high time that proper order was introduced into this matter. The supply of lumber to enterprises and construction projects would be considerably improved if each ministry consolidated its Astrakhan lumber transshipment centers.

Agriculture

(Editorial)—REPORT AND ELECTION MEETINGS IN COLLECTIVE FARMS. (Pravda, Jan. 14, p. 1. 1400 words. Summary:) In accordance with the Collective Farm Statutes report and election meetings take place annually in the collective farms. At these important meetings the collective farmers sum up the year's work and elect chairmen, officials and inspection commissions in cases in which terms of office have expired or in which the workers consider it necessary to hold such elections ahead of schedule.

The exemplary preparation and conduct of these meetings depends entirely on the leadership of Party and Soviet agencies. Last year's experience showed that where these agencies exercised this leadership in Bolshevist fashion the collective farm workers engaged in profound discussion of the annual reports, criticized defects in the work of managements and put forward concrete proposals to improve farm work. But in certain collective farms the meetings were poorly organized and sparsely attended. Such cases occurred, for example, in Tambov, Penza and certain other provinces.

In a number of collective farms there were violations of the Collective Farm Statutes regarding the distribution of income. Certain farms, after fulfilling their obligations to the state, failed to create sufficiently large communal funds and allocated almost all the income, in cash and in kind, to payment for labor-days. In some cases the collective farms allotted too little agricultural produce for sale, thus lowering their cash income. In so doing they decreased their chances of creating nondivisible reserves which would have ensured a more rapid development of the communal economy.

Last year's report and election meetings advanced few agronomists, zootechnicians and other specialists to the post of collective farm chairman. Instead of advancing agricultural specialists, the heads of a number of Party and Soviet agencies selected as chairmen inadequately trained personnel who sometimes lacked the necessary experience and were incapable of managing large, diversified economies. During the present report and election campaign it is necessary to advance agricultural specialists to the post of collective farm chairman.

The report and election meeting is an important event in the life of every collective farm. It must be held strictly in accordance with the Collective Farm Statutes and must be so organized that the collective farmers thoroughly discuss all work of the collective farm, the board and inspection committee, the chairman, the brigade leaders, heads of farm sections and officers, and so that they severely criticize shortcomings.

The work of the meetings and the effect of their resolutions will depend largely on the degree to which representatives of the local Party and Soviet agencies, agricultural specialists and Machine and Tractor Station directors take part in them It is essential that M.T.S. directors report to the collective farmers on the fulfillment of contract obligations.

The duty of Party and Soviet agencies is to ensure timely preparation of report and election meetings and to focus the attention of the entire public on this highly important institution by increasing mass agitation work among collective farm workers.

Compilation of reports and holding of report and election meetings will go on until Feb. 20. Party and Soviet organizations must help collective farms in this work.

HOW ADVANCED EXPERIENCE IS PROPAGANDIZED IN UZBEKISTAN. (By Staff Correspondent A. Kanayev. Izvestia, Jan. 10, p. 2. 1000 words. Summary:) Tashkent—The agenda announced that a report by Comrade Khozhayev, team leader in the Stalinchi Collective Farm, Lenin District, Andizhan Province, would be discussed at the regular meeting of the collegium of the Uzbek Republic Ministry of Cotton Growing. The Stalinchi Collective Farm is well known for its good labor organization and high cotton yields, and many agronomists came to the meeting eager to hear this report. But when the meeting opened the assistant director of the agricultural propaganda administration announced that there had been a misunderstanding, that the collective farm in question had no such team leader as Khozhayev and that therefore there could be no report. This was not the first time that the directors of the agricultural propaganda administration had done such a thing, and the reason for it is their poor contact with the collective and state farms and Machine and Tractor Stations.

It is the duty of this administration to study, generalize and introduce into production the achievements of agrobiological science and the experience of the best cotton growers, but it does not cope with this task.

Hundreds of collective farms in Uzbekistan harvest 35 to 50 centners of raw cotton per hectare every year, but the administration has not printed a single pamphlet about this experience. Thousands of collective farmers in Uzbekistan harvest 15 to 20 tons of raw cotton a year. The agricultural propaganda administration tried to explain how these harvests were obtained in a pamphlet about the famous cotton growers Comrades Ashirova and Pakhimkulov from Lenin Collective Farm in Voroshilov District, but the pamphlet contained nothing but broad generalizations, unconvincing figures and many misprints. The propaganda administration does not know how to help the collective farms organize cotton picking according to an hourly schedule. Most of the administration's publications come out late and are therefore no longer timely. The administration directors do not bother to distribute either their own publications or those from Moscow. In June of last year the U.S.S.R. Ministry of Cotton Growing sent by air mail various pamphlets and posters on irrigating cotton plants, but the administration officials found time to bring this material from the airport only in October and had to pay 3000 rubles in fines. Last winter the Uzbek Republic Council of Ministers ordered the

administration to publish by spring 16 pamphlets and eight posters on the transfer to the new system of irrigation, but only eight pamphlets and two posters were printed, and they were late. It is inadmissible that the publication of textbooks for the three-year agro-zootechnical courses should be held up. The courses began Dec. 15 and the director of the administration should have seen that the manuscripts of textbooks were prepared in September. The authors handed in their manuscripts in time, but not a single one was prepared for printing. They all sit in the office of the assistant director of the administration, who wants to edit them all himself. But when they will be translated into Uzbek and Kara-Kalpak and when they will be printed is not known.

The directors of the agricultural propaganda administration of the Uzbek Ministry of Cotton Growing are not sufficiently concerned with studying and introducing advanced experience and with increasing the agrotechnical knowledge of the cotton growers. The administration is divorced from life.

Letter to the Editor: VITAL NEEDS OF COLLECTIVE FARMS. (By Agronomist V. Chuntonov, Chairman of Voroshilov Collective Farm, Suksun District, Molotov Province. Pravda, Jan. 15, p. 2. 400 words. Summary:) Our Voroshilov Collective Farm increased its total harvest yield of grain 20% this year in comparison to 1950. We fulfilled the state grain deliveries plan ahead of schedule. Last year we managed to organize the production of brick through our own efforts and developed the construction of communal and cultural buildings. But our collective farm, like others in the province, could do this considerably better if the local Soviet and agricultural agencies took our needs and demands into consideration. We experience great difficulties in organizing the construction of buildings for cultural establishments because we have no specialists who can make the necessary calculations and direct the construction work. Such specialists are not trained in the province or in the district centers. Lumber is needed for construction. Many collective farms receive timber but cannot saw it up. Nobody in the province is concerned with providing saws for the collective farms. In some districts the Machine and Tractor Stations have portable saws for collective farm use, but not in ours. Many collective farms in the Western Urals cannot get water for their communal livestock. Some farms made contracts with the Molotov Province office of the Water Resources Development Trust to dig wells, but the contracts were not fulfilled. These examples show that some officials of Molotov Province do not heed the voice of the collective farmers.

WORD OF RURAL EQUIPMENT OPERATORS. (By I. Bakhyev, Director of the Ulzutuyevo Machine and Tractor Station, Chita Province. Pravda, Jan. 9, p. 2. 1000 words. Summary:) During the postwar Stalin five-year plan our M.T.S. received scores of powerful caterpillar tractors, implements, self-powered combines, sowers, cultivators, mowers, and irrigation machines. It now has about 30 different kinds of machines. Cross sowing is now done on large areas; deep plowing, as a rule, is done with plows with colters. Spring plowing is becoming rare; all the land is plowed in the fall.

Animal husbandry is the main branch of agriculture on the collective farms of Transbaikalia. In connection with this, it is the task of the M.T.S. to work on procuring fodder, mechanizing labor-consuming processes on the livestock farms, improving pasture land and helping the collective farms in their construction. The improvement in agricultural equipment necessitates an improvement in the management of the M.T.S., which unfortunately we have not as yet felt. The style of management of the province agricultural administration for M.T.S. is old-fashioned. The administration floods us with questions which we do not always find time to answer. Recently a conference of M.T.S. directors and their assistants was held in Chita. The important question of measures to improve the work of the M.T.S. was to be discussed, but this conference was conducted formally and led only to a discussion of current economic questions. No serious analysis was made of the work of the M.T.S. The province agricultural administration order issued after the conference did not even touch on the problems of M.T.S. work. M.T.S. directors should be acquainted with agrotechny, mechanization of animal husbandry and economic problems. But no provision is made for M.T.S. officials to improve their qualifications without leaving their work. There is much red tape in the management of the M.T.S.

The farm equipment operators make serious demands of the U.S.S.R. Ministry of Agriculture, which takes very little interest in how the M.T.S. work in various provinces. Our station, for instance, has received much new equipment, but we are forced to leave valuable machinery out in the open because we have not the means to build even a shed for tractors and combines. Many other M.T.S. of our province are in the same position. The ministry is not concerned with whether or not the M.T.S. have good repair shops or places to keep machinery.

The new tasks facing the farm equipment operators demand a considerable improvement in the management of the M.T.S. by the U.S.S.R. Ministry of Agriculture and its local agencies.

ONE WINTER DAY. (By Tatyana Tess. Izvestia, Jan. 11, p. 2. 2000 words. Summary:) Lenin District, Moscow Province—Once Yekaterina Vasilyevna Martyanova, a famous teacher and Deputy to the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet, related how, before the revolution, she, then a young village schoolteacher, tried to organize a school for adults in the village. The village women gathered for the first time in the small schoolroom on a winter Sunday morning. Most of them had sneaked away from their husbands and mothers-in-law, and they were frightened. The teacher stood in front of the class and read in a voice that was clear but shaking with emotion:

Fate has three hard lots.
The first: to marry a slave,
The second: to be the mother of a slave,
And the third: to be the slave of a slave until one dies.
And all these fearful lots lie
On the woman of the Russian land.

The teacher read and the women looked at her, their whole beings going out to her as if they were absorbing each word with their very souls. Outside the snow was falling. And the stillness in the classroom was so intense that when the door was thrown open the noise was like a peal of thunder. Guards came to the school the first day. The classes were stopped, the peasant women were sent home and the teacher was threatened with arrest and exile.

I recalled this story recently when I visited one of Martyanova's classes. Behind a long table alongside wide windows sat the teacher. Around her, on a couch, benches and chairs sat the students.

"And so let us continue our lessons on the second subject," said the teacher. "Who wants to tell us about pots?" "Zoya Kapustina? Well, go ahead, Zoya."

While the girl was talking, a broad-shouldered man in a leather coat entered the classroom. He sat down quietly on a bench and took off his coat, on which a Gold Star shone.

"I think that we should visit the Gorky State Farm," continued the girl, "At the state farm pots are made on automatic lathes which can produce about 20,000 in one shift. Our collective farm chairman should get busy and provide us with such lathes." The girl smiled and looked at the man in the leather coat. "What do you say, Mitrofan Zakharych?"

"You can visit the state farm. Choose your day—we will supply a bus," said the chairman.

Thirty and some odd years is a long time in the life of one man. But how short a time it is in the history of human culture, in the life of a whole people, and what truly great changes have taken place during that time! What a huge distance separates the peasant women who came frightened and surreptitiously to school from the Soviet collective farmers, proud of their right to acquire knowledge. And indeed it is not for rudimentary knowledge that the collective farmers come to the Farming Study Center. Every one of the members of the younger generation taking courses there has finished seven-year school. Among the people of the older generation, if they do not have a school diploma, they are rich in experience, maturity, culture and practical knowledge.

What constitutes the studies offered at the Lenin Collective Farm's Farming Study Center? These studies are not those of a small circle or of a discussion group which, however useful its work, meets only from time to time. Here three-year

agrotechnical courses organized for the collective farm masses are held. After completion of the courses the graduates are given certificates as Masters of Agriculture, First Class.

Knowledge is being acquired on an unprecedented scale in the Soviet countryside. And this is happening without any fuss, without any fancy phrases, efficiently, as something completely natural and necessary. Thousands and thousands of rank-and-file collective farmers and brigade leaders are acquiring a knowledge of science.

UNUTILIZED RESERVES. (By I. Lukin, Staff Correspondent for Kirgiz Republic. Pravda, Jan. 12, p. 2. 1000 words. Summary:) Frunze Province is an important beet-growing district in Kirgizia. It has fruitful, irrigated land and long, warm summers. The state has provided the Kirgiz beet growers with seeds, machines and mineral fertilizer. There are five first-class sugar refineries in Frunze Province. Not far from the city of Frunze there is an experimental station. In short, all the conditions are there for good results in sugar beet cultivation. The Frunze collective farmers have accumulated much experience in raising beets. Before the war they harvested 400 and more centners per hectare. Now hundreds of teams harvest up to 500 centners per hectare.

Nevertheless, the potentialities for increasing the harvest yield of sugar beets are not properly utilized in Kirgizia. In the past year not a single district fulfilled the state plan for increase in the harvest yield. The contracts for sugar beets were not fulfilled either, and for this reason the refineries failed to deliver thousands of centners of sugar to the country. The local Party, Soviet and agricultural agencies do not display sufficient concern for improving the cultivation of sugar beets.

At the Krupskaya Collective Farm, Kaganovich District, for instance, the cultivation of beets is conducted on a very low level. The farm has been sowing beets on the same land for 17 years, and the absence of crop rotation has caused the harvest yield to decrease. This is the case on many other collective farms in Frunze Province; many of them use little fertilizer and delay in harvesting the crop.

There is much talk in the province about how the collective farms lack water for irrigation, but little has been done to save water and use it carefully. Comrade Dolmatov, junior staff member of the Kirgiz branch of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences, suggested introducing a method of siphon irrigation of beets which would save water and increase the harvest yield. The Kirgiz Council of Ministers approved this innovation and suggested that the Ministries of Agriculture and Water Resources and the Frunze Province Executive Committee organize such irrigation over large areas of land. Special pipe was manufactured, but when the time came to use it the people did not know how to handle it. The collective farmers were not given any help and the innovation achieved no purpose.

The Machine and Tractor Stations should play an important part in increasing the sugar beet harvest, but year after year they do not fulfill the state plan for autumn plowing, as a result of which the quality of the work does not meet the demands. Strange as it may seem, the M.T.S. directors do not bear the responsibility for not fulfilling the state plans for harvest of sugar beets. There is much confusion in the labor organization among beet cultivators.

The Kirgiz Party Central Committee and council of Ministers pass many resolutions to improve the cultivation of sugar beets, but these resolutions remain unfulfilled. The republic organizations do not demand unconditional fulfillment of state plans for harvest of sugar beets from the Party, Soviet and agricultural agencies of Frunze Province. It is the duty of the Party and Soviet organizations of Kirgizia to strive to increase the yield of sugar beets in the republic.

IRRIGATION OF STAVROPOL STEPPE. (By Staff Correspondent I. Morozov. Izvestia, Jan. 12, p. 2. 150 words. Summary:) Stavropol—The Stavropol steppe, where land dried out by the sun used to cover hundreds of kilometers, now has water from rivers and canals and many ponds and reservoirs. The irrigation system in the Proskoveisky massif has been organized. The collective farms of Kursavka and Nevinnomyssk Districts have installed a new water supply system. The Kuban River has been connected with the dried-up Yegorlyk, on the banks of which pumping stations have been built. In the past two years irrigation districts have been enlarged by 2000 hectares in Trunovsky, Molotov, Nevinnomyssk, Yegorlyk and Dmitriyevskoye Districts.

Transportation

(Editorial)—FOR FURTHER ADVANCE IN TRANSPORT WORK. (Pravda, Jan. 10, p. 1. 1400 words. Summary:) Together with industry and agriculture, our railroad transportation is developing. The increase in 1951 was almost as great as the entire year's freight volume handled by the railroads of England and France combined.

The Communist Party and the Soviet government are paying great attention to the further re-equipment of transportation. Restoration of double tracks, brigades, stations and junctions during the postwar five-year plan has ensured the ability of the main lines to handle the necessary volume of traffic. Locomotives and rolling stock have been replaced and increased in number, new lines have been built, particularly in Central Asia and in the North, and a number of lines have been converted to electricity.

It is the fighting task of railroad workers to satisfy the increased demands made on transportation by the growth of the Soviet economy. This means still smoother coordination of work and a further strengthening of discipline in all sectors of the transportation system.

The personnel of most railroad lines fulfilled the state plan for 1951, but certain lines lagged behind in fulfilling the plan for transporting a number of important types of freight. The Sverdlovsk Railroad, for example, did not meet its quota for loading metal and ore on some days, the Kazan and Turksib Railroads did not load the specified amount of grain, and the Krasnoyarsk and East Siberian Railroads fell short every day in timber loading. The East Siberian and Orenburg Railroads are not meeting schedules satisfactorily. The Transbaikal, Azerbaidzhan and Ashkhabad lines failed to fulfill the very important plan for speeding up car turnaround.

Railroad transportation has now entered the crucial winter period. The experience of the leading trunk lines shows that success in winter operations is decided by Bolshevist organization in work, by firm labor discipline and correct use of powerful equipment. This is why, for example, most divisions of the Perm Railroad are meeting their plan quotas under winter conditions.

Officials of all branches of the national economy are interested in fulfilling the plan for hauling important types of freight. Working in close cooperation with industrial workers, the railwaymen can do much to speed freight hauls. It is necessary to develop in every way competition between the railwaymen and the miners, oil workers and steelworkers for precise fulfillment of plan quotas. The local Party organizations must be at the head of this competition, strengthening in every way the production cooperation between the railwaymen and workers in all branches of the economy.

The five-hundreder locomotive engineer movement and the experience of the Minsk dispatcher P. Sudnikov in initiating a struggle for better utilization of transportation equipment are continuing to spread on the railroads.

It must be pointed out that some railroads do not pay enough attention to guiding socialist competition. The recent district, city and province Party conferences in Chita Province severely criticized the Transbaikal Railroad and its political department, as well as the transportation department of the Chita Province Party Committee, for what amounted to disruption of the five-hundreder engineer movement on the railroad.

It is the function of political departments and Party organizations in the transport system to improve mass political work among railroad workers and to train them in the observance of state and labor discipline, a high sense of responsibility for work entrusted to them and a communist attitude toward labor and socialist property. They must also boldly develop Bolshevist criticism and self-criticism and foster an attitude of intolerance toward shortcomings.

Soviet railwaymen must fulfill the 1952 plan in an exemplary fashion.

Letter to the Editor: A VOLGA CROSSING NEEDED AT SARATOV. (By A. Milashechkin, Professor at Saratov Highway Institute. Izvestia, Jan. 9, p. 2. 600 words. Summary:) An urgent need for Saratov Province, which is located between two hydroelectric stations on the Volga, is the construction of a major automobile river crossing at Saratov. Saratov Province occupies 103,000 square kilometers and is divided into two parts by the Volga: the right bank with the city of Saratov and the left bank with the city of Engels. Both cities are growing rapidly and thousands of people and hundreds of cars go from one city to the other everyday. But the present means of crossing is poor and unreliable. The role of truck transportation of freight would be immeasurably greater if an automobile crossing of the Volga were built which would enable freight to be shipped from one bank to the other in eight or ten minutes. The necessity for constructing two bridges, one for railroads and one for city transportation, was once established. The railroad bridge was built, but city transportation is handled by ferry during the summer and over the ice during the winter. The automobile connections between the two parts of the province are completely severed during the spring and autumn, when the most important campaigns are in progress. Permanent automobile connections by bridge or tunnel should be accessible by the time the construction of the Stalingrad Hydroelectric Station is completed. Only by building a permanent right of way from the right bank to the left will it be possible to reconstruct the road network around the Volga rationally and ensure normal development of the whole economy of the province.

Domestic Trade

Letter to the Editor: SLAVE TO BACKWARD TASTES. (By A. Chechkovsky, Manager of Leningrad Phonograph Record Factory. Pravda, Jan. 15, p. 2. 500 words. Condensed text:) ... To meet the growing demand of the working people in recent years our Leningrad factory has considerably increased its output of recordings of classical symphonies and chamber works. Among them are such widely known works as arias from "Eugene Onegin," "Ivan Susanin" and the other operas, sung by the most eminent singers.

However, the province trade organizations do not always study the requirements of the purchasers. The fact is that they are concentrating their attention mainly on popular dance music, and either ignoring classical records or ordering them in insignificant quantities. ...

It is difficult to imagine that millions of customers are not interested in classical music. Obviously the requirements of the population are being completely ignored. Such a situation can be explained only by the fact that the orders of the trade organizations do not reflect the wants of the population but only the limited tastes of various workers and officials in the trade network. ...

The lack of coordination between record factories and trade organizations results in a situation in which the factories have large stocks of excellent records which can find no market, while in the stores it is difficult to find recordings of well-known operatic arias and performances by outstanding masters of Soviet music.

We must popularize recordings of the classical repertoire more widely.

The Ministry of Trade should expand the selection of records in the stores in conformity with the growing demands of the population.

Cities

Deputy's Forum: UNSOLVED PROBLEMS OF MUNICIPAL ECONOMY. (By A. Balayants, Deputy to the Stavropol Territory Soviet and Territory Housing Director. Izvestia, Jan. 9, p. 2. 1400 words. Summary:) During the years of the Soviet regime hundreds of well-built new cities and workers' settlements have sprung up. Nevertheless the organization of construction management structure of municipal economy leads to irrational expenditures and impedes the full utilization of technology and advanced experience in constructing and operating communal enterprises. Division of functions among numerous departments impedes the settlement of questions of municipal economy. The management of communal economy in the rural district centers and workers' settlements is still worse. The republic Councils of Ministers' architectural administrations and the city architects handle the planning of big cities, but nobody manages the planning of small cities, workers' settlements and rural district centers. Out of ten cities in Stavropol Territory, only three have city architects. In the other seven, to say nothing of the district centers, questions of architecture come under the jurisdiction of the municipal departments, whose staffs include no architects or engineers. The question arises: is it necessary to have an independent architectural department under the territory executive committee?

It is well known that in cities with a highly developed industry more than 90% of the houses are built by industrial ministries and departments, which also install water mains, sewer systems, laundries, baths, etc. But there is no coordination in this work. In Sverdlovsk Province, for instance, 92% of the water mains, 82% of the sewer mains, 93% of the baths, 92% of the laundries and 84% of the hotels belong to various industrial and transportation enterprises. There are as many landlords as there are ministries who have enterprises in the city.

The dispersion of the management of communal economy also exists in the system of the local Soviets. In many major cities different administrations, independent of each other and coming under the direct jurisdiction of the Ministry of Communal Economy, manage communal housing. In Gorky there are a housing administration, an administration of municipal improvement and communal enterprises, a streetcar and trolley bus administration and a water system administration. All these are under the direct jurisdiction of the Ministry of Communal Economy and have no connection with each other. In Kuibyshev there are four such administrations, in Leningrad nine, in Stalingrad nine, in Moscow 11, in Omsk three, in Novosibirsk two, etc. The existence of parallel organizations in the municipal economy cannot contribute to correct planning, or to the solution of municipal economy problems.

The lack of a single centralized administration for housing and municipal construction has a bad influence on scientific research work. The Academy of Communal Economy and the Academy of Architecture are called upon to handle questions of municipal economy, but they produce very few finished works.

The Russian Republic Ministry of Housing was formed from construction trusts and organizations of the Ministry of Communal Economy. A Chief Administration for Repair and Construction Trusts has also been formed under the Ministry of Communal Economy, which performs almost the same duties as the Ministry of Housing. We think that the Ministry of Trucking, the Ministry of Housing and the architectural administrations under the republic Councils of Ministers should be merged into a single Union-republic U.S.S.R. Ministry of Municipal Economy. The formation of such a ministry would make it possible to improve immeasurably the management of municipal economy. It would also save hundreds of millions of rubles of state funds.

BELORUSSIA'S CAPITAL DEVELOPS. (By Staff Correspondent A. Kozlov. Izvestia, Jan. 12, p. 2. 300 words. Summary:) Minsk—Belorussia's capital continues to expand. New buildings of a textile melange combine are being built along the Cherven Road, which until recently went through open fields. The combine will be one of the largest light industry enterprises of the Soviet Union.

The automobile, tractor and machine-tool factories and other enterprises are building beautiful residential buildings. A 106-apartment building of the city Soviet is being built on Soviet Street, the city's main thoroughfare. The lower floor of this building will be occupied by a motion picture theater seating 500.

More than 20,000,000 rubles have been allocated for housing

construction in 1952. On Jan. 11 the city Soviet executive committee approved a plan for developing the municipal economy, which constitutes a vast program for the development of local industry, housing and public works during 1952. New secondary schools will be opened in Frunze, Lenin and Kaganovich Boroughs. The city will have new children's institutions, a hospital and two public baths, and the first trolley bus line will be put in operation. The plan provides for 36 new service stores and five mobile furniture and household equipment repair shops. The construction of Central Square, a bridge across the Svisloch River and the reconstruction of the square at the railroad station will be completed.

MINING TOWN GROWS. (Izvestia, Jan. 10, p. 1. 750 words. Summary:) Cheremkhovo, Irkutsk Province—This mining town is changing beyond recognition. Instead of low wooden houses more and more well-equipped stone buildings are appearing. New clubs, schools, hospitals and kindergartens have appeared, and in 1951 alone the miners received more than 13,000 square meters of housing. An outpatient clinic and a school accommodating 400 children have been built in the settlement of Khramtsovaya. A similar school has been built at Mine No. 10/16. Four million seven hundred thousand rubles are being spent for a city miners' club, which is nearing completion, and construction of a large motion picture theater seating 600 has begun.

Culture

SESSION OF THE LITHUANIAN REPUBLIC SUPREME SOVIET. (By Staff Correspondent V. Samoukova. Izvestia, Jan. 11, p. 2. 275 words. Summary:) Vilnius—The second session of the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet discussed the question of cultural-enlightenment work. Thanks to the solicitude of the Party and government the network of cultural-enlightenment institutions in Lithuania has grown. The republic now has about 3000 clubs and reading rooms, 135 houses of culture, more than 700 libraries, 35 parks of culture and rest and many museums. In six postwar years the rural motion picture theater network has increased tenfold and the city network doubled. Lecture groups have been established in every district. However, the work of the cultural-enlightenment institutions does not meet the growing demands of the workers. In many districts of Vilnius Province the libraries and clubs are housed in unsuitable premises and the funds allotted for construction of new buildings are used by the district executive committees for other purposes. Little attention is given to the selection and training of cadres for the cultural-enlightenment institutions. The speaker and participants in the session sharply criticized the ministries and administrations for poor management of these institutions. The Supreme Soviet passed a resolution charging the Lithuanian Council of Ministers to remedy these shortcomings.

Science

OVERCOME BACKWARDNESS OF FISHING INDUSTRY BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE. (By Master of Biological Sciences I. Lagunov, Director of All-Soviet Marine Fishing and Oceanography Institute's Polar Institute; Doctor of Biological Sciences P. Moiseyev, Director of Pacific Fishing Industry and Oceanography Institute; Master of Economics V. Murin, Director of All-Soviet Marine Fishing and Oceanography Institute's Baltic Branch; and Master of Biological Sciences V. Tikhonov, Director of All-Soviet Marine Fishing and Oceanography Institute's Azov-Black Sea Institute. Izvestia, Jan. 15, p. 2. 2000 words. Condensed text:) An all-Soviet scientific conference on problems of the fishing industry took place in Moscow in December, 1951.

The conference showed that biological science has achieved certain successes in studying the numbers of fish and working out methods of forecasting the size of catches and the rate of replenishment. New ocean fishing grounds have been opened. ...

However, biological science is still not fully satisfying the practical requirements of the fishing industry. Especially great attention should be paid to extending the exploration and investigation of the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans with a view to securing a sharp increase in our country's fish catch. ...

The branch industrial institutes of the U.S.S.R. Ministry of the Fishing Industry and their numerous branches and departments, and also the biological institutes of the U.S.S.R. and republic Academies of Sciences and the departments of ichthyology and marine biology of the universities, are all engaged in studying the rich resources of our reservoirs.

The Ichthyology Commission of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences has been called upon to become the director and coordinator of all exploration and research in the fishing industry. But this body has not yet proved its worth: scientific institutions have not yet felt its influence.

Other scientific institutions engaged in marine studies—the State Oceanography Institute, the Oceanography Institute of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences and the marine observatories of the hydrometeorological service—are also standing aloof from the interests of the fishing industry. Yet these are the very institutions which should compile for recasts of hydrological conditions and fluctuations in sea level to meet the requirements of the fishing industry.

Many scientists in the universities and in the Moscow Technical Institute of the Fishing Industry and Economy are engaged in research, mostly on bodies of fresh water.

The branch scientific institutions are likewise making insufficient use of their opportunities. There are about 40 scientific institutions in the U.S.S.R. Ministry of the Fishing Industry, some of them consisting of only two to three staff members. ...

As the all-Soviet conference showed, individual scientists (Prof. F. I. Baranov) still have anti-Michurinist, mechanistic views which negate the importance of biological laws and factors of the external environment in determining the number of fish in a body of water. ... Practical application of such views must lead to irrational and essentially destructive management of the fishing industry.

The conference also failed to solve the major theoretical problem of the dynamics of fish population. This was because the scientific institutions have not reorganized their work in accord with the basic premises of Michurinist biology.

No less serious a shortcoming is the lag in research methods. Until recently our marine biology was largely descriptive in nature. ... Although research along these lines has not lost its meaning even now, it is entirely inadequate at the present time. The basic trend in marine research must be a biological one which considers fluctuations in numbers as well as the behavior of fish as the result of the interactions of the adaptive traits of the species and the factors of the external environment. In this connection study of the behavior of fish and marine organisms under natural conditions and extensive experimental research in aquariums and basins takes on tremendous significance.

It must be acknowledged, however, that our marine institutions still lack experimental equipment. Meanwhile the limitations of our knowledge of the behavior of fish has a negative effect on the work of the fishing fleet. ...

The fishing industry has acquired a large and powerful fleet since the war, but this fleet is not used effectively enough. Fishing vessels often lose entire days searching for fish, and their success depends largely on chance. The science of fishing is confronted with the responsible task of overcoming this element of chance by further perfecting methods of scientific search.

On the basis of I. P. Pavlov's teachings marine biology must begin research on the influence of various stimuli on the behavior of fish. It is known that many commercial fish are sensitive to light. In 1951 Prof. P. G. Borisov succeeded in catching fish with the aid of electric light. More than 3,000,000 poods of fish were caught in the Caspian Sea during a single summer by this new method. Studies of the reaction of fishes to sound, electric current and other stimuli will have great significance. ...

Some scientists working in this field incorrectly seek to prove the independence of fishing techniques from biology. This theory is advanced in particular by Prof. F. I. Baranov, director of the department of fishing techniques at the Moscow

Technical Institute of the Fishing Industry and Economy, and by his pupils. They do not want to admit that the problem of fishing techniques is not a purely technical one.

Research in fishing techniques is now conducted by small dispersed groups of engineers in poorly equipped laboratories. Strange as it may seem, there is not a single laboratory or experimental basin in the entire system of the U.S.S.R. Ministry of the Fishing Industry where one can conduct engineering experiments on models of fishing equipment.

Research personnel is unsatisfactorily used and trained. For the past ten years there has been an unhealthy reduction in the number of leading scientists in the branch scientific institutions closest to the fishing industry. Many scientists move from the research institutes to the academic institutes and universities. ... The training of marine research personnel is poorly organized. ...

The U.S.S.R. Ministry of the Fishing Industry takes an entirely incorrect stand on the science of fishing, confining itself to approving research programs and to financial matters.

However, neither the deputy ministers nor the directors of the chief administrations took part in discussing the achievements and plans of the major institutes in the sessions of the technical council. The collegium of the ministry has not heard a single report on the work of the Azov-Black Sea and Polar Institutes or of the Caspian and Baltic Branches of the All-Soviet Marine Fishing and Oceanography Institute since the war.

To mobilize scientific cadres for the solution of the chief problems of developing our fisheries—this is the task. Toward this should be directed the efforts of the U.S.S.R. Ministry of the Fishing Industry and of all scientists working in the industry.

MORE ATTENTION TO KARAGANDA'S SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS. (By Master of Technical Sciences A. Saginov, Director of Karaganda Branch of All-Soviet Coal Research Institute. Izvestia, Jan 11, p. 2. 900 words. Summary:) Karaganda—The Karaganda Coal Basin has been transformed and strengthened during the Stalin five-year plans. It would develop still more successfully if such vital problems of mine operation as the exploitation of rich seams with smallest possible losses and the complex mechanization of coal extraction processes were settled immediately. The solution of such important problems necessitates the organization of extensive scientific research and experimental work, for which a scientific research base is vital.

In December, 1947, the Karaganda Branch of the All-Soviet Coal Research Institute was set up and entrusted with responsible tasks; but as a result of lack of attention from the Ministry of the Coal Industry and the institute itself, our branch is going through a difficult organizational period. For two years the branch could not find housing space, and the problem of personnel is still unsolved. Suffice it to say that the branch lacks 30 engineers. Unqualified people occupy specialists' positions. The main reason for this lack of qualified personnel is that the U.S.S.R. Ministry of the Coal Industry does not fulfill its own orders on sending qualified specialists to the Karaganda branch.

The branch has done much valuable scientific work. One of its projects was to study the possibilities of increasing coke reserves. To continue this work successfully on a large scale the branch needs experimental equipment to study coking coal. In 1950 the Ministry of the Coal Industry issued an order for the construction of the necessary experimental equipment, but it has not yet been completed. In 1939 experimental work was done in the basin to introduce improved systems of working one of the richest seams. This year experimental work was completed on the introduction of a new effective system of working seams, thanks to which shortcomings were remedied to a considerable extent. It would seem that the directors of mines and trusts would take up the further improvement of this system. However, in the mine where this experimental work was done extraction by the new method has been stopped despite the order of the Ministry of the Coal Industry. And so for many years the practical application of our research has not progressed at all.

The All-Soviet Scientific Research Institute does not help the Karaganda branch as it should; it manages it very superficially. For two years the institute has not sent out an assistant director. Approval of the branch's plans is delayed until the middle of the year.

It is high time the Ministry of the Coal Industry displayed greater concern for its scientific organizations in Karaganda. Not only should they receive more help, but the many organizations in the Karaganda Basin should be merged into a single scientific research organization, which could solve all the problems connected with improving mining in the basin.

IN U.S.S.R. ACADEMY OF SCIENCES. (Izvestia, Jan 12, p. 1. 350 words. Summary:) On Jan. 11 the Presidium of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences heard a report by Academician A. I. Oparin, who last autumn was a member of a Soviet cultural delegation to the Chinese People's Republic. He described in detail the meteoric growth of scientific research in China, and in particular the development of progressive Chinese biology.

In the vanguard of science is the Chinese People's Republic Academy of Sciences. Under the favorable conditions of the new China intensive work is going on to reorganize scientific research on the basis of advanced contemporary ideas. Academician Oparin pointed out the great successes achieved in botany, paleontology and anthropology. He also noted the successes of Chinese biology in the study of antibiotics, nitrogen fixers and the tea plant, and stressed the tremendous interest shown by Chinese scientists in the achievements of Soviet science, and in particular of Michurinist biology.

The Presidium then heard a report by the delegation which attended the conference of German chemists in Leipzig. This report was made by Corresponding Member I. N. Nazarov.

Academician M. M. Dubinin, head of the delegation which attended a conference of Hungarian chemists, told of the scientific achievements of Hungary.—(Tass).

SESSION OF UKRAINE REPUBLIC ACADEMY OF SCIENCES. (Pravda, Jan 15, p. 1. 350 words. Summary:) Kiev—Academician A. V. Palladin, president of the Ukraine Republic Academy of Sciences, made a report "On the Plan for Scientific Research Work in the Ukraine Republic Academy of Sciences in 1952" at a recent session of the Academy. The scientific research institutes of the Ukraine Academy have given much help in planning and constructing the Kakhovka Hydroelectric Station and the Southern Ukraine Canal. The plan for work in 1952 envisages the participation of more than 20 branch institutes and higher educational institutions of the republic in working out complex problems of the utilization of Ukraine water resources, the struggle against drought in the southern districts, the use of local sources of fertilizer and the development of the productive capacities of the Polesye. The research connected with helping the construction of the Southern Ukraine Canal and the Kakhovka Hydroelectric Station comprises more than 100 subjects.

The session also heard a report by Academician I. T. Shvets on measures to improve the graduate training of scientists in the Ukraine Republic Academy of Sciences.

Elections for president, vice-president, chief learned secretary and members of the presidium were held.

STUDY OF HISTORY AND CULTURE OF SLAVIC PEOPLES. (Pravda, Jan 13, p. 1. Complete text:) The Division of History and Philosophy of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences has summed up the results of scientific research done in the past year in the Institute of Slavic Studies.

The preparation of a history of Bulgaria and the first volume of "The History of Poland" was completed by the institute in 1951. Academician B. D. Grekov discovered an interesting relic of early Polish law—"Polskaya Pravda" [Polish Law].

Scientists worked on essays on the history of Bulgarian literature, problems of Bulgarian grammar, the history of Czechoslovakia and many other subjects,

The institute has established close contact with many scientific institutions of the Slavic people's democracies and regularly receives scientific literature from them.

OUTSTANDING RUSSIAN SCIENTIST. (Pravda, Jan 15, p. 2. Complete text:) The scientific public of the capital has marked

the 125th anniversary of the birth of the outstanding Russian scientist N. N. Beketov, one of the pioneers of physical chemistry and the author of profound and original works. Reports on the life and work of N. N. Beketov and his experiments and discoveries were delivered yesterday at a meeting of the Division of Chemical Sciences of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences.

N. N. Beketov was the first to distinguish physical chemistry as an independent scientific and academic discipline. As a result of his many experiments he discovered the aluminothermic method of obtaining metals from oxides and reported for the first time the possibility of extracting metals from the hydrates of their salts through the use of hydrogen under high pressure. These discoveries have enormous theoretical and practical significance.

Soviet chemists are studying with great interest and developing in detail the scientific heritage of N. N. Beketov, who occupied an honorable place in the history of Russian science.

BEYOND THE ARCTIC CIRCLE.—Research of a Polar Experimental Station Personnel. (By Pravda's collective correspondent, the editorial staff of Polyarnaya pravda [Polar Truth]. Pravda, Jan 12, p. 1. 600 words. Summary:) Murmansk—In the tundra in the 67th degree of north latitude the electric lights of the small settlement of the Polar Experimental Station of the All-Soviet Institute of Plant Growing disperse the darkness of the polar night. The scientific workers at the station are now working on material gathered last summer and studying the results of their experiments. They are making up packages of potato, cabbage, carrot, beet, oat and barley seeds, all grown at the Polar Experimental Station, to send to testing sections in Khabarovsk Territory, Belorussia, the Crimea, Sakhalin and the Komi Autonomous Republic. Last year the station sent out samples of more than 450 kinds of seeds to 120 places in the Soviet Union.

The opinion is widespread among bourgeois scientists that it is impossible to do any farming in the Far North because of the unfavorable climatic conditions. The scientists at the station, by experimentation with many different kinds of plants, have discovered what can be grown under polar conditions. They have worked out measures to increase the harvest yield of the agricultural crops which can be cultivated in the Far North. Beets, carrots and two kinds of cabbage cultivated at the Polar Experimental Station were recommended for use in Murmansk Province, the Komi Autonomous Republic and Vologda, Archangel, Leningrad and Yaroslavl Provinces. Two kinds of potatoes have been recommended for Murmansk Province and a third kind for the Karelo-Finnish Republic, the Komi Autonomous Republic and Leningrad and Archangel Provinces.

The workers at the station discovered a method of cultivating tomatoes in the open beyond the Arctic circle. Last year, despite unfavorable weather conditions, the experimental station harvested 107 centners of tomatoes per hectare. More than ten different kinds of perennial grasses have been used at the station in order to create a feed base for Arctic animal husbandry. In the summer the Polar station is like a flower garden. Outstanding workers have emerged from the station, some of whom have defended their dissertations for their doctorate. Now the station is preparing for summer so that it can continue its work of helping the state and collective farms of the Arctic to develop agriculture.

History

VALUABLE MANUSCRIPTS. (By Staff Correspondent I. Kovalkin. Izvestia, Jan 13, p. 2. Complete text:) Krasnoyarsk —Recently many interesting manuscripts and documents have been discovered in the Krasnoyarsk state archives.

In sorting out the books of the well-known Krasnoyarsk bibliophile Yudin, archivist Comrade Preobrazhensky discovered a 15-page "Report on the Inspection of Some Schools in Simbirsk and Sengilei Districts, Simbirsk Province, in March, 1871," written by I. N. Ulyanov, inspector of public schools and father of V. I. Lenin.

Among these books manuscripts were also discovered of two chapters of A. P. Chekov's "Sakhalin Island" travel notes, a letter by V. A. Zhukovsky and V. F. Odoyevsky, several manuscripts of historian M. P. Pogodin and authentic documents about G. I. Shelekhov and A. A. Baranov, pioneer settlers in North America.

A list of the crew of the ship Nadezhda [Hope], signed by the commander of the ship, the well-known navigator I. Kruzenshtern, the personal papers of the famous Siberian partisan Shchetinkin and other documents of great historical interest were also found in the Krasnoyarsk archives.

Education

Letter to the Editor: IMPROVE TRAINING OF FUTURE AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS. (By M. Ostroglyad, Student of the Chkalov Agricultural Institute. Izvestia, Jan 15, p. 2. 400 words. Summary:) Chkalov—Last year the Chkalov Agricultural Institute set up a faculty of agricultural mechanization and electrification, for which there was a dire need. It might be expected that the province organizations would help to create normal working conditions for the faculty, in which 160 students are already studying, but the faculty does not have a single regular department. Some courses are given by teachers with insufficient experience.

From the beginning the students should acquire practical experience in workshops. The administration of the institute has been pestering the province executive committee to give them premises for workshops, but the administration does not utilize the opportunities it has to open workshops, and the equipment and instruments are lying in the storehouse. The first-year students go to the city factories and observe the workers at their jobs, but no laboratories have been set up in which second year students can gain practical experience. The faculty is like a stepchild in the institute; it has only one room. Nobody is concerned with getting textbooks for the faculty, and old books printed ten or 15 years ago have to be used. Immediate measures must be taken so that future agricultural engineers can study both theory and practice from the very beginning of their training.

Follow-up on an Izvestia Report: 'IMPROVE GUIDANCE OF WORK OF TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.'* (Izvestia, Jan. 11, p. 2. Complete text:) U.S.S.R. Deputy Minister of the Chemical Industry N. Svettsov has reported that the ministry, having read the article published in Izvestia under the above heading, recognizes the criticism of shortcomings as correct. A review of the curriculum for all specialized subjects is being completed. In the near future ten textbooks will be put out for the technicums.

Reports have come in to the editors from the U.S.S.R. Ministry of Light Industry and the Russian Republic Ministry of Trucking that they are taking measures to improve the theoretical and practical training of technicum students.

The Arts

GERMAN FILM FESTIVAL

FESTIVAL OF GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC FILMS. (Pravda, Jan. 10, p. 4. Complete text:) A festival of films of the German Democratic Republic, organized by the U.S.S.R. Ministry of Cinematography, is opening today in Moscow, Leningrad, Stalingrad and the capitals of the Union republics.

The festival will begin with a showing of the new German feature film "The Trains Run Off Schedule," a film which describes the vigilance of the railwaymen and people's police in the German Democratic Republic and their struggle with saboteurs and spies planted by the Anglo-American imperialists in East Berlin.

At the same time the theaters will show films already known to Soviet audiences: "Dangerous Voyage," "Story of a Family," "Council of the Gods," "Our Daily Bread," "A Brown Cobweb," "The Bright Checks," "They Will Not Hide," "Always Ready" and a color documentary film, "Democratic Germany," made by Soviet film workers in cooperation with film workers of the German Democratic Republic.

* Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. III, No. 40, p. 42.

The festival will last until Jan. 16. It will help Soviet audiences to become widely acquainted with the film art of the German Democratic Republic.

OPENING OF FESTIVAL OF GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC FILMS. (Pravda, Jan 11, p. 2. 225 words. Condensed text:) The festival of films of the German Democratic Republic was formally opened yesterday in the Udarnik Motion Picture Theater. ... The working people of the capital warmly greeted a delegation which has arrived for the festival and which consists of the following persons: Herr Sepp Schwab, Chairman of the Board of the DEFA Studio and head of the delegation; Irene Korb, winner of a national prize for acting; Bruno Kleberg, film producer and national prize winner; Steffi Spirach, actress; Werner Peters and Albert Garbe, actors; Wilhelm Fiedler, producer, scenario writer and cameraman; and Dr. Heynau Brandes, production director for DEFA.

On behalf of the U.S.S.R. Ministry of Cinematography and of all Soviet film workers N. Semyonov, Deputy Minister of Cinematography, welcomed the delegation. ...

Herr R. Appelt, head of the German Democratic Republic diplomatic mission to the U.S.S.R., then spoke in Russian, stressing the fact that in the German Democratic Republic cinematography serves the interest of the people and contributes to the defense of peace throughout the world.

Herr Sepp Schwab, the head of the delegation, spoke of the development of cinematography in the German Democratic Republic and its decline in Western Germany. ...

ART SERVES THE PEOPLE.—Festival of German Democratic Republic Films. (By Sepp Schwab, Chairman of the Board of DEFA Film Studio. Pravda, Jan. 14, p. 3. 1000 words. Condensed text:) ... For the first time since the end of the war and the beginning of a new, democratic German film art, we have the opportunity to show our achievements in another country on a large scale, to give a creative account of the work we have done. ...

The very fact that this festival has been organized in the U.S.S.R. assures us that German democratic film art is deserving of praise, that it is on the right path. ...

The Anglo-American occupation authorities and the Bonn rulers are striving with all their might to hinder the unification of German film workers. They want the frontier which passes through the center of Berlin—the frontier between the peace-loving world and those who are striving for war—to separate also the leading figures of German culture.

The Americans have set up a special fund, hoping by offering high pay to attract the workers of DEFA into the western sectors of Berlin. But they will not succeed in disrupting our work. ...

Despite intimidation and persecution many prominent figures in art who are living in Western Germany are openly expressing their sympathy with the work of DEFA, saying that it is the only studio in Germany which is creating productions necessary and intelligible to the people, distinguished by high artistic merit and devoted to the cause of unifying Germany. ...

The following fact speaks eloquently for the condition of the film industry in Western Germany: at present 560 American films are circulating there, while German films are not being shown anywhere.

According to a statement by representatives of the film renting organizations of Western Germany, indebtedness for rental of American films has reached the sum of 5,000,000 marks, The Americans are not demanding payment, but instead all motion picture theater managers are completely dependent on them.

In conclusion, I want once more to underline the tremendous significance of this festival. It will contribute to the strengthening of friendly ties between our peoples and exert a fruitful influence on the further development of the film art of the German Democratic Republic.

EVIDENCE OF GROWTH—Observation on 1951 All-Soviet Art Exhibit. (By N. Dmitriyevna. Izvestia, Jan. 9, p. 2. 1900 words. Condensed text:) Art is judged by its best works. It is in them that genuine talents are revealed and the ways to the future are pointed out. The nature of the 1951 All-Soviet Art exhibit and its significance for the future development of pictorial art are to be judged, then, not by the mediocre works always found in such exhibits (including this one) but by the best. And the 1951 exhibit contains not just a few but dozens of works which show that our pictorial art is advancing with sure strides. ...

At last year's exhibit* the central position was occupied by the monumental canvas, painted by B. Ioganson with the assistance of a group of young artists, entitled 'V. I. Lenin Addressing the Third Young Communist League Congress," a work which is one of the high points of Soviet painting. ...

At the present exhibit attention is focused on D. Nalbandyan's picture "The Boy from Gori." In a poor room the young J. V. Stalin sits over a book in the half-darkness. The light of an oil lamp reveals his fine face with its imprint of deep thought awakened early in life. This moving portrait is undoubtedly one of the best achievements of this artist.

The large canvas "The Great Vow," by a team of young artists guided by A. Gerasimov, has improved considerably in comparison, with its first version, shown at the 1950 All-Soviet Art Exhibit. Nevertheless, it cannot be said even now that the grandeur of the historic moment has been conveyed in its full force.

One cannot overlook "Dimitrov Accuses," the diploma work of the young artist V. Bulankin. The picture depicts the moment when Georgy Dimitrov spoke at the Leipzig trial. The young artist has provided a bold solution to the difficult problem of a psychological contrast between the noble figure of the Communist and the repulsive faces of his "judges" in their impotent rage.

The very important theme of the fight for peace is by no means adequately reflected in the works shown at the exhibit. It is not only that there are very few such works on display, but also that this theme demands a far greater historical concreteness than we have seen hitherto in the works of our artists. To reduce this theme to certain subjects "lying on the surface" means to follow the line of least resistance. It would seem that the line of least resistance had been followed by the group of young Georgian painters A. Vepkhvadze, D. Gabitashvili, K. Makharadze, and G. Totibadze in their picture "Youth of the World for Peace!" The colorful bouquets and monotonous smiles which this large-size canvas has in abundance by no means express the essence of the theme. ...

It has also become one of the most urgent tasks of art to depict the great construction projects of communism. However, we see at the exhibit only the first steps toward a development of this theme, which contains great artistic possibilities. ...

It is unfortunate that the exhibit contained very few works developing the theme of daily life, which the Soviet public appreciates and likes to see. One can name the small but exceptionally fine and carefully painted picture "The Meeting," by V. Serov, the expressive and sincere though somewhat naively conceived picture "Builders of Happiness," by the talented Azerbaidzhanian artist M. Abdullayev, and two or three others, but this is almost all. S. Grigoryev, who has won widespread recognition for his beautiful genre pictures from the lives of young people, exhibited this time an unsuccessful, contrived item pretentiously called "Enthusiasts of Kakhovka."

There were also few pictures on subjects from the historical past in the exhibit: actually two in all, and both of them controversial. S. Gerasimov's "Peasant Insurrection at Mozhaisk in 1861" has much expression, but this expression borders on the grotesque and is not justified by the subject matter. M. Khmelko's "Forever With Moscow, Forever With the Russian People" depicts the triumphant unification of the Ukraine and the Moscow State in the time of Bogdan Khmelnitsky and is without doubt the fruit of much effort by the artist. It attests to his growing technical skill but it would seem that this skill has been directed along the wrong channel in this case. The artist has sought for sensational effect rather than for specific historical subject matter.

Though there were comparatively few genre and historical paintings at the exhibit this year, the landscape section was a

* [See Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. III, No. 10, pp. 41-42.]

joy to the public. A new type of landscape breathing the poetry of the present day appears in the canvases of V. Gavrilov ("Everywhere Are the Lights of Construction Projects"), Yu. Podlyasky and G. Nissky. V. Meshkov exhibited a new series of Karelian landscapes. ...

The graphic arts section had a wealth of new and remarkable achievements in the field of book illustration. It can be boldly asserted that book illustration as a whole is on a higher level in our country than it has ever been before. ...

The exhibit includes many works by Soviet sculptors showing the beloved features of V. I. Lenin, J. V. Stalin and other famous people of our country. Many of these works are distinguished by a high degree of skill.

The best works at the 1951 All-Soviet Art Exhibit show convincingly that the mastery of socialist realism and the attention paid by our artists to important historical and contemporary themes are enriching Soviet pictorial art and opening broad new prospects for its development.

(Editorial)—CONCERNING STRICTNESS IN ARTISTIC CREATION. (Pravda, Jan. 9, p. 1. 1300 words. Summary:) All the experience of Soviet literature and art shows clearly the fruitful influence of principled criticism on the development of art. It is known that several feature films and literary works were creatively revised following serious criticism, and subsequently met with wide public approval. The appearance of a revised and supplemented version of A. Fadeyev's novel "Young Guard" * is an example of the effective and creative force of Party criticism, which enriches creative work, elevates the artist and reveals broader perspectives to him.

The recent 1951 All-Soviet Art Exhibit showed the remarkable new achievements of Soviet pictorial art. It contained several works which justly deserved praise and attested to the creative growth of our arts. However, the exhibit also contained very weak pictures, carelessly and hastily painted without creative enthusiasm. Inexpressive, dull works, devoid of skill, flimsy in form and superficial in content, are convincing evidence that not all artists have taken note of the high standards set by the Soviet public in viewing their work.

Haste in creating new works is entirely unjustified and deserving of severe criticism. Masters of literature and the arts must remember that the people have no need for hastily executed, poor works. Those critics who are timid about criticizing shortcomings, who praise crude, mediocre works and cursorily and superficially discuss major problems of artistic craftsmanship, render poor service to artists and writers. Toned-down evaluations of new works disorient the artist and hinders his creative development.

Nor does the negligence of certain publishing houses which publish immature literary works help creative development. The Soviet Writer Publishing House, whose work is discussed in this issue of Pravda, † sometimes publishes mediocre books because it does not take the interests of the Soviet reader into consideration.

Lack of strictness always has a negative effect on creative work. The Yermolova Theater spent much time and effort on the production "Honesty," but found it necessary to cancel the production almost immediately. The theater was unsuccessful because it approached its task without discrimination or an adequate sense of responsibility and undertook to produce a faulty play.

Constant concern for the ideological purity and vital truth of art work, awareness of duty to the public, study of the life of the people and constant improvement of craftsmanship—this is what expresses most clearly the strict attitude of the artist toward his work.

POLITICAL EDUCATION OF ARTISTS. (Pravda, Jan. 12, p. 2. Complete text:) Tallin—The bureau of the Estonian Party Central Committee discussed the work of the Estonian Union of Soviet Writers. The resolution passed noted that recently Estonian artists had created many works reflecting their ideological growth and their increase in skill. At the same time serious shortcomings were pointed out in the work of the artists. In particular, it was noted that the diverse life of the Soviet people was still not properly reflected in the works of the artists. Some artists permit a formalist, superficial approach to ideological content. The board of the Union often tolerates the ideological mistakes of the artists.

The Central Committee bureau placed before the artists the task of creating ideologically lofty and artistically excellent works reflecting the greatness of the era of Lenin and Stalin and meeting the requirements of the communist education of the workers.

Follow-up on an Izvestia Report: 'THE PROVINCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND QUESTIONS OF ART.'* (Izvestia, Jan. 15, p. 2. 150 words. Summary:) In connection with the article printed in Izvestia Dec. 15 under the above heading, the Chkalov Province Executive Committee organized a checkup on the work of the arts department and the theaters of the province, the results of which were discussed at a conference of leading theater officials. A number of practical measures were outlined to improve the repertoire of the theaters and the training of art leaders for the houses of culture and for city and rural clubs and to create normal working conditions for the art institutions.

Literature

From the Latest Mail: IMPORTANT QUESTIONS RAISED. (Pravda, Jan. 15, p. 2. Complete text:) In one of the issues of Sovetskaya Kirgizia [Soviet Kirgizia] appeared the article "Truthfully Explain Our Soviet Reality." The article raises a number of important questions on the work of the Kirgiz writers' organization.

It points out instances of an impatient attitude toward criticism on the part of certain officials of the Kirgiz Union of Soviet Writers.

"At a meeting of writers called to discuss the 12th issue of the annual," the article says, "the speaker, Comrade Chekmenev (editor of the annual "Kirgizstan"—Editor) plainly manifested a scornful attitude toward criticism, extolling ideologically defective and artistically inferior works.

"At the meeting there were attempts, in the guise of necessary and well-intentioned criticism, to drag in fancy notions about criticism—unprincipled criticism. Comrade Kovsky, for example, demanded that only qualified literary people should criticize him, people who 'really have the right (!) to teach me something.'"

The newspaper sees in this setting of "conceit, self-praise, collusion and impatience of criticism" the reason for the publication of ideologically immature and artistically weak works.

Sovetskaya Kirgizia dwells on the stories "The Boy From Stalingrad," by F. Samokhin; "The Snowstorm," by N. Chekmenev; and "Inakhan and the Old Violinist," by L. Grabovskaya. These works are devoted to the exciting theme of the friendship of peoples. They tell about the meeting in Kirgizia and Kazakhstan of the people evacuated from the western regions of the country during the great patriotic war.

"This event," the article points out, "is incorrectly elucidated in all three works. The situations devised by the authors distort reality. Everyone knows how warmly, cordially and solicitously the local population greeted the evacuees. From the very first days of their arrival in the cities and villages of Kirgizia, Kazakhstan and other republics and provinces they found themselves in the family circle of Soviet people.

"In the narratives of Comrades Chekmenev and Grabovskaya and in the tales of Comrade Samokhin all this is distorted. They ignore the tremendous work done by Party, Soviet and public organizations and write as though the evacuees were left to themselves."

The article goes on to point out that "Comrade Chekmenev himself states that he picked upon a chance happening and exaggerated it in order to make his plot tense and his denouement unexpected. In doing this he took a wrong path."

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* [For a review of this revised edition see Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. III, No. 51, pp. 32-33.]

† [See Press and Publishing.]

* Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. III, No. 50, p. 49.

The article also criticizes some other works.

In conclusion the article states that Kirgiz literature is rich in talented writers. All that is needed is skill in choosing for publication works that are of real value and in giving patient assistance to young writers.

Press and Publishing

WORK CREATIVELY TO PRODUCE NEW BOOKS.—Concerning Soviet Writer Publishing House. (By V. Ozerov and N. Chukanov. Pravda, Jan. 9, p. 2. 2000 words. Condensed text:) On the covers of many literary works appears the imprint of the Soviet Writer Publishing House, one of the largest in our country. It puts out annually as many as 300 books in a total number of copies almost seven times greater than before the war. The function of the Soviet Writer Publishing House is to publish new works of Russian Soviet Literature and to acquaint readers with translations of books written in the other languages of the peoples of the U.S.S.R.

Some time ago the publishing house was subjected to severe and justified criticism for its completely unsatisfactory organization of the publication of literature. Now it has somewhat improved its work and is paying more attention to the ideological standard of the literature it publishes. ...

To help the growth of our literature, to gather around itself our best literary forces—this is the task confronting the publishing house. If they are to do this successfully its officials must have a clear idea of everything that is being created by Soviet writers both in the capital and locally, must discover and publish successful works by both experienced masters of literature and beginning authors.

If one examines the activity of the Soviet Writer Publishing House from this standpoint it becomes evident that there are still not a few unperformed tasks. The publishing house does not have sufficiently strong ties with the artistic sections of the Union of Soviet Writers and with the central and local literary journals and annuals. Hence it is not surprising that serious gaps in the publication lists of the publishing house reflect this general tendency of its work. For instance, few books about the working class were published during 1950 and 1951, although many writers are working on this theme. ...

Many of the books published bear the marks of insufficient finish. They are raw works in which the theme is not profoundly worked out and the main characters not fully drawn. There are many instances of careless use of language. ...

The officials of the Soviet Writer Publishing House often waste much energy on useless correspondence and negotiation with the authors of manuscripts clearly unsuitable for publication, instead of rejecting them at once. The publishing house also shows insufficient strictness toward works which can be published but require additional work. ...

Soviet Writer's officials (Comrade Kornev, Director, and Comrade Lesyuchevsky, Editor in Chief) have taken certain steps toward improving editing and publishing work, but they do not show due concern about establishing a creative atmosphere in the publishing house. They do not organize widespread discussion of plans and of the vital problems of editing and publishing; they do not call meetings of translators; they rarely meet with their editors to discuss manuscripts, and give them poor instruction as to the best methods of working with authors.

It is the function of the publishing house's editorial board to discuss questions related to the tasks and trends of publishing in general as well as to examine individual manuscripts. But general questions related to the publishing business are rarely included in the agenda of the editorial board. Often ten or more bulky manuscripts are produced at one of these sessions. Not having had time to study each one of them carefully, those present at the session rely on the appraisal of the [publisher's] readers in deciding whether to accept or reject them. So long as things are organized in this way the editorial board can exert no real influence to raise the ideological and artistic level of a work.

Three editorial departments have been formed in the publishing house: Russian literature (directed by Comrade Gorbunov), literature of the peoples of the U.S.S.R. (directed by Comrade Kiryanov) and criticism and literature study (directed by Comrade Tolchenova). These departments could engage in extensive creative work with the authors, but they have not yet begun to work as effective and creative units.

At the present time only the formally appointed editor works on the manuscript of a book together with its author.

There can be no denying that the editor is the central figure in the publishing house and that he is responsible for releasing the work in question. His role and authority must be increased. At the same time it is quite clear that it is sometimes difficult for the editor alone, without the aid and advice of the editorial staff as a whole, to check thoroughly on the quality of a manuscript. It would be very worth-while if, in addition to the editor, other members of the editorial staff, especially the officials, were to become well acquainted with the manuscript. But the editors go their separate ways, without turning to each other for help on creative matters. Because they spend their time assigning manuscripts to be edited and settling various administrative matters the officials themselves read few manuscripts and do not devote the time they should to what is basic: detailed, creative discussion on books submitted and careful analysis of the quality of editing.

The experience of certain other publishing houses suggests an effective way of working with the author: collective discussion of manuscripts. With rare exceptions, this method is not employed by the Soviet Writer Publishing House. It is a question, for example, why the editorial officials and the readers could not meet together in a creative meeting with the author. And how much the author would gain by discussion of his manuscript at a meeting of one of the creative sections of the Union of Soviet Writers or, in individual cases, if the workers in a factory, on a collective farm or in a scientific institution were to become familiar with it! ...

The management of the publishing house shows no concern about organizational strengthening of the editorial offices, about promoting and training young editors and improving their qualifications. The department for editing critical articles and articles on literary problems lacks personnel and is unable to guarantee that critical essays and reviews intended for publication will be ready. The organization of the Russian Soviet literature editorial department has not been thought through and the office lacks editors of prose, essays and plays, even though there is a real need for them.

In order successfully to engage in creative work with authors, the publishing house should make skillful use not only of its regular staff but also of qualified consultants in the ranks of writers, scholars and production workers. But it does not rely sufficiently on the outside public and makes extensive use only of the services of its own readers. The secretariat of the Union of Soviet Writers has recommended more than 120 non-staff readers to the publishing house, but only a narrow circle of writers and critics takes an active part in evaluating manuscripts. Some of these—for instance, Comrades Reznik and Broun—have managed to write between 15 and 20 evaluations of the most diversified works in a comparatively short time.

The readers are the first to become acquainted with a manuscript, and to a great extent they decide its fate. This places a great responsibility on them. Can we tolerate a situation in which, taking advantage of the fact that no one checks up on them, some readers makeshift with evaluations which say nothing and fail to analyze the substance of the work under consideration? ...

Shortcomings in work with the author, editor and reader should come to the attention of the publishing house's Party organization. However, the Party bureau (Comrade Chesnokova, secretary) shows little interest in the creative life of the personnel and has not even discussed the articles in the central press which directly concern the Soviet Writer Publishing House and the quality of the books it publishes.

It is the secretariat of the Union of Soviet Writers which is most vitally concerned with the organization of the creative work of the Soviet Writer Publishing House. It is therefore all the more difficult to understand why questions about the tendency of this work...have not become a subject of careful discussion at sessions of the secretariat. But creative discussion of this sort...is often replaced by mere formal resolu-

tions in which the publishing house is invited to examine the question of publishing this or that book. ...

To publish works of high ideological content and perfect form is the honorable task of the entire editorial and publishing collective. To do this we must create in the publishing house conditions which will make possible the systematic organization of profoundly creative work to raise the quality of books.

Radio–TV

TELEVISION CENTER IN KIEV. (Literaturnaya gazeta, Jan. 15, p. 1. 300 words. Summary:) Kiev—The Kiev television center, the third in the country after Moscow and Leningrad, has begun trial broadcasts. Even now, when the center is broadcasting only twice a week, on Saturdays and Sundays, there are about 1000 television sets in the city, all their antennas pointing in one direction—toward a light openwork tower 190 meters high, the highest television tower in the U.S.S.R.

K. Alexeyev, director of the center, stated that the Kiev television center incorporates many improvements in design and construction as compared to stations already operating in Moscow and Leningrad. According to the technical norms the station is supposed to give high-quality reception over a radius of 70 to 80 kilometers, but already its broadcasts are being well received in Zhitomir, 120 kilometers from Kiev as the crow flies.

Regular broadcasts will begin in May or June after final adjustments to the television center have been made. They will include films, live programs from a special studio which is nearing completion, performances from theaters and concert halls and running commentaries on sports events.

Sports

BEST SKATERS COMPETE. (Pravda, Jan. 10, p. 4. 125 words. Summary:) Alma-Ata—The traditional ice-skating races for the Kazakh Republic Council of Ministers' prize ended Jan. 9 near Alma-Ata. Yu. Golovchenko, representing Omsk, won first place among the men with 191.138 points. M. Anikanova from Moscow led the women with 210.713 points. During the races three new world records were established and one existing world record was equaled. After the races Comrade M. S. Nurumbayeva, Vice-Chairman of the Kazakh Republic Council of Ministers, presented the prizes to the victors.

Follow-up on an Izvestia Report: 'WINTER SPORTS SEASON.'* (Izvestia, Jan. 13, p. 2. Complete text:) Having discussed the editorial published under the above heading, the Murmansk Province Soviet Executive Committee recognized the criticism of it as correct.

The executive committee charged the province committee on affairs of physical culture and sports to set up skiing sections in all physical culture groups in order to increase the number of people skiing this winter by two or two and a half times.

The Murmansk Province Soviet Executive Committee charged the city and district Soviet executive committees to exercise daily control and guidance over the development of mass skiing.

Miscellany

(Feuilleton)—PLAYFUL PETER. (By P. Kharchenko. Izvestia, Jan. 13, p. 2. 1000 words. Summary:) Kiev—In March, 1947, a new inhabitant by the name of Peter Voloshchuk arrived in the large and friendly family of children at the Kiev Invalid Children's Home No. 1, which is under the jurisdiction of the social welfare department of the Kiev City Executive Committee.

Nobody paid any attention to Peter for a very long time. His education had been neglected to such an extent that attempts to do something about it produced dismal results. The first to approach Voloshchuk seriously was Comrade Molochnikov, the director of the home. Looking at Peter, the director noticed traits which distinguished him from the general run of the children. Peter shaved regularly and wore a size ten shoe. Indifferent to children's games, he had a predilection for raising his own pigs and used the kitchen of the children's home as a fodder base. Every morning he went to work as a bookkeeper. The director started by trying to instill in Peter respect for the rules of the home and to make him pay for his board, but playful Peter refused.

The board of the children's home informed the city social welfare department of this, but it seemed that they did not want to take over Peter's education. The director appealed to the people's court to expel Voloshchuk for the following reasons: first, he crowded the children in the home by occupying two rooms intended for the infirmary and second, in accordance with the Feb. 24, 1949, decree of the U.S.S.R. Council of Ministers, the premises of children's homes should be cleared of outsiders. Peter immediately complained to the city social welfare department that he had been offended, and the department ordered the director of the children's home to take the case out of the people's court. Then the director appealed to the Ukraine Republic Ministry of Social Welfare, where they said "outrageous" and washed their hands of the matter.

Comrade Vengrovsky, head of the city social welfare department, suggested to his bookkeeper that they hold an inspection of the children's home in retaliation for the director's insults. And this bookkeeper happened to be called Peter Victorovich Voloshchuk. He was as similar to the Peter of the children's home as two drops of water, not only in appearance but also in character. He was one of those bookkeepers who in answer to their boss's question, "How much is two times two?" would say, "However much you want." He had been sentenced to a year's hard labor for signing false accounts. And now he conducted an inspection of the children's home. Soon Vengrovsky issued the following order: "The chief bookkeeper of the children's home is to be dismissed from his job and Comrade Molochnikov, director of the children's home is to be reprimanded."

Comrade Molochnikov again appealed to the ministry. Again they said "outrageous" and refrained from interfering.

The Kiev City Soviet Executive Committee took a more decisive stand. It announced that Voloshchuk had been installed in the quarters he was occupying with the permission of the city executive committee and with the knowledge of the city social welfare department. In other words, they said, "Don't touch Peter—let the children make room for him."

But the people's court decreed that Voloshchuk should get out of the children's home. The children were delighted; at last there would be no outsiders in their home. Naive children!

Voloshchuk appealed to the province court, which decreed that, since no document existed giving the children's home the right to occupy its premises, the judgment of the people's court was reversed and the case was up for reconsideration.

The joy in the children's home changed to general confusion. Everyone feared what would happen the next day; who would be evicted? They or Voloshchuk? The reality of these fears was confirmed by the fact that Vengrovsky had already dismissed the director and ordered six officials of the home to tender their resignations.

It is essential that a firm and principled educator undertake the correction of "playful" P. V. Voloshchuk.

SNOWFALL IN MOLDAVIA. (Izvestia, Jan. 9, p. 1. Complete text:) Kishinev—North winds are blowing in Moldavia and snow has been falling abundantly for several days. The temperature is eight below [Centigrade]. The ground has frozen and the fields and meadows are completely covered with a white carpet.

In recent years snow has been a rare phenomenon in Moldavia. The present snowfall is the first real one since 1947. Mass work on snow retention has started on the collective farms. Snow in January in Moldavia presages an abundant harvest.

* Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. III, No. 48, pp. 38-39.

Weekly Index to Pravda and Izvestia

This index provides a complete record of the contents of the two leading Soviet dailies. It is arranged by the same categories employed in the body of the issue, where the major stories are translated, condensed or summarized. Additional data are given in brackets when the Pravda or Izvestia headline is not self-explanatory. Datelines, newspapers and news services cited by Pravda or Izvestia as the source of the report are also given in brackets in many cases. Bibliographical data appear in this sequence: name of paper date/page-approximate length in words. Items starred appeared in a previous issue of the Current Digest.

JAN. 9—15, INCLUSIVE

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

WORLD POLITICS

CHURCHILL'S VISIT

On Truman-Churchill talks in Washington [Official statement and U.S. press comments reveal that talks were failure], Pr 11/4-500, Izv 11/3-500.

UNITED NATIONS

American so-called "collective measures" plan is plan for war preparations—Speech by A. Ya. Vyshinsky in Political Committee on Jan. 7, 1952, Pr 9/3-3900, Izv 9/3-5400; Pr 10/3-5500, Izv 10/3-5400; Pr 11/3-4400, Izv 11/3-3000. Failure of an American venture, Pr 9/3-1500; under heading Sixth session of U.N. General Assembly—Failure of American so-called "collective measures" program, Izv 9/4-700. Sixth session of U.N. General Assembly—Speech by A. Ya. Vyshinsky [on draft resulution approving Collective Measures Committee's report], Izv 9/4-1100; —Afternoon session of Political Committee on Jan.8 [Draft resolution on "collective measures" adopted], Pr 10/4-450, Izv 10/4-600; —In Political Committee [Soviet draft resolution on Collective Measures Committee rejected; A. Ya. Vyshinsky proposes Security Council meeting on Korean question], Pr 11/3-1000; with additional subhead Speech by A. Ya. Vyshinsky, Izv 11/3-1200; —American so-called "collective measures" program exposed as program of preparation for a new war [Adoption of resolutions on Collective Measures Committee report and on calling periodic meetings of Security Council to discuss measures for removing international tensions], Pr 14/3-750; —U.S. fears discussion of Korean question, Pr 11/4-150, Izv 11/3-150; —Speech by A. Ya. Vyshinsky on Korean question, Pr 11/4-2400, Izv 11/3,4-2400; —Speech by A. Ya. Vyshinsky on Korean question in Political Committee on Jan. 9, 1952, Pr-Izv 12/3-4800. Plenary session of U.N. General Assembly—Exposure of American plan for arms race under cover of talk of arms census, Pr 12/3,4-3400; under heading Exposure of American plan for arms race, Izv 12/3,4-1900; under heading Speech by A. Ya. Vyshinsky at plenary session on Jan. 11, Izv 13/3-1600. Sixth session of U.N. General Assembly—Soviet delegation introduces extended program of measures to guarantee peace for Assembly's consideration—Speech by A. Ya. Vyshinsky, Pr-Izv 13/4-1300; —On measures against threat of new world war and for strengthening peace and friendship among peoples—Speech by A. Ya. Vyshinsky in Political Committee on Jan. 12, 1952, Pr 14/3-3600; Pr 15/4-3500, Izv 15/3-5400; —U.S., British and French delegations try to prevent General Assembly from adopting resolutions on prohibition of atomic weapons and reduction of armaments, Pr 15/3-1500, Izv 15/4-1200. Plenary session of U.N. General Assembly [considers nine questions which have been discussed in various committees], Pr-Izv 12/3-75. Note from Soviet government to U.S. government [on Mutual Security Act of 1951], Pr-Izv 12/2-1200. Note from Polish government to government of U.S.A. [on Mutual Security Act of 1951], Pr 14/4-450. Sixth session of U.N. General Assembly—Plenary session of General Assembly—U.S. ruling circles exposed in aggressive actions and interference in internal affairs of other countries —Speech by A. Ya. Vyshinsky, Pr 13/3,4-2800, Izv 13/3-2800.

ATLANTIC PACT

France Presse on Belgium's refusal to step up arms race [Belgian government sends note to N.A.T.O. Secretariat], Pr 9/4-100. International review: Behind screen of "European army" [Immediate formation of unified army is being hampered by conflict over its financing and control], by M. Marinin, Pr 14/4-650. U.S.A. demands increased military expenditures by West European countries, Pr 15/3-125.

PEACE FRONT

(Editorial)—In struggle for peace, national independence and freedom [On significant role of colonial and dependent countries in collection of signatures to World Peace Council's appeal], Izv 12/1-1300. A. Ya. Vyshinsky's interview with delegation from French National Peace Council, Izv 15/4-1300.

FAR EAST

Imperialist intrigues in Southeast Asia [U.S., British and French representatives hold talks in Washington on coordination of action in Southeast Asia], Pr-Izv 13/4-300. International review: Aggressors' designs in Southeast Asia, by M. Marinin, Pr 14/4-550.

China.—Application of Soviet innovators' experience [helps farmers and factory workers], Pr 9/1-275. In liberated Tibet [Soldiers of Chinese People's Liberation Army are working in fields, coal mines and other branches of production], Pr 10/1-200. At session of Bureau of All-China Committee of People's Political Consultative Council [Resolution on formation of commission on education adopted; population called upon to intensify struggle against corruption and bureaucracy], Pr 10/4-400, Izv 10/1-400. Marxist-Leninist literature published, Pr 11/1-300. Upsurge of culture of working masses [Illiteracy being eliminated], Pr 11/1-275. New life of national minorities in China [Standard of living is rising in autonomous regions in Northwest China], Pr 12/1-300. Trade expansion in China [Output and sale of locally produced goods increased significantly in South-Central China in 1951], Izv 12/1-250. A school in every village [350,000 elementary schools in Northeast China], Pr 14/1-200. State farms in China [Government sets up 15 farms], Pr 15/1-225. Workers' achievements at electric power station in Southwest China [39% more electric energy produced in eleven months of 1951 than in corresponding period of 1950], Izv 15/1-50.

India.—Window on world of socialism [Soviet Pavilion at International Industrial Exhibit in Bombay], by Staff Correspondent S. Borzenko, Pr 13/3-2000. International Industrial Exhibit in Bombay, Izv 13/4-225. Elections in India [Results], Pr 10/4-200; Pr 14/4-150. Prisoners in India on hunger strike [in protest against banning of Communist Party and refusal of amnesty to political prisoners in Hyderabad], Pr 10/4-25.

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PRESS AND PUBLISHING

Work creatively to produce new books—Concerning Soviet Writer Publishing House [Low ideological and artistic level of its books is due to acceptance of hastily written manuscripts], by V. Ozerov and N. Chukanov, Pr 9/2-2000. (Advertisement)—Novy mir No. 1, January [on sale], Izv 9/4-100. Review of the press: Propaganda of advanced experience [Vitebsky rabochy (Vitebsk Worker) actively supports agricultural innovators and popularizes their experience by arranging Michurin evenings], Pr 10/2-1000. Province Party committee bureau on work of province newspaper [Sverdlovsk Province bureau criticizes Uralsky rabochy (Urals Worker) for failure to reflect life of province in all its aspects], Pr 11/2-200. New books [11 translations of books from people's democracies], Pr 13/2-250. From latest mail: Disrespect for reader [Kemerovo Province newspaper prints insulting articles on prominent citizens instead of thoroughgoing and factual criticism], Pr 14/2-250. Collection of Materials on Second World Congress of Partisans of Peace [published by State Political Publishing House], Izv 15/4-150.

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HISTORIOGRAPHY (Notes—Continued From Page 4) FEATURE

8. [For previous references to Bekmakhanov in connection with bourgeois nationalism in respect to national movements, see Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. II, No. 52, pp. 14-16; Vol. III, No. 17, pp. 12, 18; No. 31, pp. 5-6.]
9. Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. III, No. 28, pp. 16, 28.
10. Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. III, No. 50.

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ON SLAVIC STUDIES

SOME PUBLICATIONS FROM WHICH TRANSLATIONS APPEAR

NEWSPAPERS

Gudok [Whistle], railroad daily.
Izvestia [News], government daily.
Komsomolskaya pravda [Young Communist League Truth], daily of Young Communist League of the Soviet Union.
Krasnaya zvezda [Red Star], Army daily.
Krasny flot [Red Fleet], Navy daily.
Literaturnaya gazeta [Literary Gazette], semiweekly of Soviet Writers' Union.
Moskovskaya pravda [Moscow Truth], Moscow city and province daily.
Pionerskaya pravda [Young Pioneer Truth], semiweekly for children.
Pravda [Truth], Communist Party daily.
Sotsialisticheskoye zemledeliye [Socialist Agriculture], Ministry of Agriculture daily.
Sovetskoye iskusstvo [Soviet Arts], semiweekly of Ministry of Cinematography, Committee on Affairs of the Arts and Committee on Affairs of Architecture.
Trud [Labor], daily of Central Council of Trade Unions.
Uchitelskaya gazeta [Teachers' Gazette], semiweekly of Union republic Ministries of Education and trade unions of educational workers.
Vechernyaya Moskva [Evening Moscow], Moscow city and province daily.
Vedomosti Verkhovnovo Soveta SSSR [Bulletin of U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet], weekly.

MAGAZINES

Bolshevik, Communist Party fortnightly.
Izvestia Akademii nauk SSSR [Journal of U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences], bimonthly, published in three separate volumes: Division of Economics and Law, Division of History and Philosophy, Division of Literature and Language.
Krokodil [Crocodile], fortnightly of humor and satire.
Kulturno-prosvetitelnaya rabota [Cultural-Educational Work], monthly dealing with adult education and indoctrination work.
Lektsii-broshury [Lecture Pamphlets], lectures published semiweekly by Society for Dissemination of Political and Scientific Knowledge.
Nauka i zhizn [Science and Life], monthly popular science magazine published by Society for Dissemination of Political and Scientific Knowledge.
Ogonyok [Flame], popular illustrated weekly.
Planovoye khozyaistvo [Planned Economy], monthly of State Planning Committee.
Poligraficheskoye proizvodstvo [Printing], monthly of Chief Administration of Printing, Publishing and Bookselling.
Professionalniye soyuzy [Trade Unions], monthly of Central Council of Trade Unions.
Semya i shkola [Family and School], monthly of Russian Academy of Pedagogical Sciences.
Slavyanye [Slavic World], Slavic Committee monthly.
Sotsialisticheskoye selskoye khozyaistvo [Socialist Agriculture], Ministry of Agriculture monthly.
Sovetskaya etnografia [Soviet Ethnography], monthly.
Sovetskaya kniga [Soviet Book], bibliographical monthly of Academy of Sciences.
Sovetskaya muzyka [Soviet Music], monthly of Union of Soviet Composers and Committee on Affairs of the Arts.
Sovetskaya pedagogika [Soviet Education], monthly of Russian Republic Academy of Pedagogical Sciences.
Sovetskoye gosudarstvo i pravo [Soviet State and Law], monthly of Academy of Sciences' Law Institute and Institute of Juridicial Sciences of Ministry of Justice.
Teatr [Theater], monthly of Soviet Writers' Union and Committee on Affairs of the Arts.
Vestnik Akademii nauk SSSR [Academy of Sciences Herald], monthly.
Voprosy ekonomiki [Problems of Economics], monthly of Academy of Sciences' Economics Institute.
Voprosy filosofii [Problems of Philosophy], thrice-yearly organ of Academy of Sciences' Philosophy Institute.
Voprosy istorii [Problems of History], monthly of Academy of Sciences' History Institute.
Vneshnyaya torgovlya [Foreign Trade], monthly of Ministry of Foreign Trade.
Zhurnal Moskovskoi Patriarkhii [Journal of Moscow Patriarchate], monthly of Moscow Patriarchate of Russian Orthodox Church.

Literary monthlies:
- Novy mir [New World].
- Oktyabr [October].
- Znamya [Banner].
- Zvezda [Star] (Leningrad).

TRANSLITERATION

The transliteration system employed by the Current Digest is designed for the convenience of readers who do not know Russian. The aim is to approximate the Russian words as closely as possible without diacritical marks, superscripts or apostrophes.

The following transliteration table is used except when names have recognized English spellings (e.g., Tschaikowsky, Alexander):

а	a	к	k#	х	kh
б	b	л	l	ц	ts
в	v	м	m	ч	ch
г	g*	н	n	ш	sh
д	d	о	o	щ	shch
е	e**	п	p	ъ	(omit)##
ё	yo†	р	r	ы	y
ж	zh	с	s	ь	(omit)##
з	z	т	t	э	e
и	i	у	u	ю	yu‡
й	i††	ф	f	я	ya‡‡

* г = v in genitive endings его (evo), ого (ovo).
** е = ye when initial and after ь, ъ and all vowels except ы, or when preceded by vowel-consonant combinations as in Slavyanye.
† ё = o after ж and ш.
†† Combinations ый and ий = y.
# кс = x in words using x in English forms (Maxim, Alexander).
ь and ъ before vowels are transliterated y.
‡ ю after ы = iu.
‡‡ я after ы = ia; after и = a, as in Izvestia.